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Friday, June 17, 2022

Opposing views face off in reconsideration of Bartlett renovation

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — If the June 21 Special Town Meeting warrant and June 28 election ballot question sounds familiar, it's because it is.

On those dates, Webster voters are being asked to reconsider their recent rejection of a \$101 million proposal to renovate Bartlett High School. Due to state law, the ballot question's phrasing is likely to confuse some people: "Shall the Town of Webster be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition [2½] the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to pay the costs of the Bartlett High School Renovation Project...."

Simply put, voting "yes" means you support the renovation project and are willing to pay the taxes to fund it; "no" means you oppose doing that.

As the phrasing shows, the ballot doesn't include the dollar value; that's decided at Town Meeting. Although a majority supported the plan in May's Town Meeting, it failed under state law that requires a two-thirds majority for debt exclusions. The ballot vote only requires a simply majority (50 percent plus one vote). The proposal must pass at both votes to go forward.

For several opponents, being asked again so soon is part of the problem. To Carolyn, who didn't give her last name, "The town is bullying us that if we do not vote for it then, they will cut services to police etc., and said taxes will go up for sure either way. They already had a ballot vote, it failed; they had a town meeting, it failed; so now they are making people go out again and sit through another LONG meeting on a work night and another ballot vote. It is like they are trying to wear people down. To keep having votes until they get what they want."

That's a common argument on the Webster Residents Forum (WRF) Facebook page (although Carolyn emailed it to me directly), where the project is being heavily debated. Opponents there generally see the "do-over" as disrespectful and even insulting.

Supporters, however, argue the second round of voting is necessary if Webster wants to meet a key state deadline. At the end of June, the Mass School Building Authority's agreement to pay about \$51 million of the total cost expires if voters haven't approved the town's \$49 million share of the funds. If voters haven't said yes by then, MSBA has indicated it will rescind its funding and Webster will have to start the process over again.

To supporter Kori Hinkle, that's unacceptable. "This is the cheapest option," she said.

A second option calls for \$66 million in repairs just to meet state code requirements, which she described as "putting a band-aid on a bullet wound." Because such repairs would end up being done in phases over about 15 years, a recent selectmen's meeting revealed they might actually cost as much as \$250 million, including

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Courtesy

STELLAR STUDENTS

Dudley Middle School proudly presents its Students of The Month. 5th Grade - Wyatt Pelletier, Julian Brockway, Callum Blackwood, & Griffin O'Grady; 6th Grade - Aaron Desautels, Christopher Feliciano, Nadya Delgado, & Brady Reilly; 7th Grade - Steadfastness Onyekwere, Thomas Ide, & Carter Gendron; 8th Grade - Vorapat Voraraj, Natalie Megas, & Tyler Burdick.

Ag Commission lays out plans for continued outreach

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — After recently receiving approval for a \$1,500 budget at Dudley's annual town meeting, the Dudley Agriculture Advisory Commission is hitting the ground running.

The Commission briefly touched on their plans for outreach during a meeting on June 7 where member Linda Lorkiewicz confirmed their funding approval and reiterated previous ideas presented to the Board of Selectmen of adding signage around town and purchasing a banner.

"I'm going to start looking into the road signs more and I also did some pricing on the banner. They all seem to be coming in around \$75 to \$85 for a four by

eight," Lorkiewicz told the Commission.

She quoted several local businesses with different prices provided depending on the size of the banner which would be used to identify the Commission at town events. The Street signs would designate Dudley as a "Right-to-Farm" community with plans to have the signs posted at each entrance to the town. The Commission also discussed looking to other communities to see how they have handled similar projects, namely their immediate neighbor, Thompson, Conn.

Outside of the expenses of outreach, the Commission is also increasing its effort to form stronger relationships with town boards and local farmers. Lorkiewicz said they drafted a letter for the Board of Selectmen that would lay out their larger

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Elwell hired as new Shepherd Hill Principal



Courtesy

Darren Elwell was named the new Principal of Shepherd Hill Regional High School during the School Committee's meeting in early June.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee officially named Darren Elwell as the new principal of Shepherd Hill Regional

High School on June 8, capping off a months-long search for a successor to outgoing Principal William Chaplin who has taken a job in another district.

Elwell was chosen

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Working group to tackle details of Tobin Farms, Misty Meadows proposals

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — The Dudley Planning Board announced that a working group will help continue the process of negotiating improvements to the Misty Meadows and Tobin Farms subdivisions of town following both projects being passed over at town meeting last month.

These projects have been a primary item of discussion for the Planning Board for several months and were part of a series of proposals on the town meeting warrant involving three different private ways. The third way in the Partridge Hill subdivision was approved at town meeting and work almost

immediately began to prepare that roadway for improvements. The other two roads, Misty Meadow and Tobin Farms, were passed over after residents of those ways had questions about pricing and the amount of work that would be required. The ultimate goal is for all three roads to be improved and eventually accepted as town ways.

During a meeting on June 8, it was revealed that a working group would be set up to help break down the different elements of the project and iron out the exact costs for residents of both roadways. Town Planner Bill Scanlon said he had been in discussion with the Town Administrator and Highway Superintendent

about providing actual quotes to abutters. He also spoke with the project engineer to create detailed line items with cost estimates of the work and a 20 percent contingency for unexpected costs. This list will provide the basis of the working groups discussions to provide a clearer picture of the project.

"The only way we can eliminate some of those work items is by granting waiver through the Planning Board. The working group would go through the task list and determine if it would be possible to grant waivers without compromising the finished product. Obviously, these will become town roads and we want them to be

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Courtesy

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH SALUTES YOUNG ARTISTS

The preschoolers at Zion Lutheran Church have been creating art work to reflect their understanding of the Easter story and the ways they experience God's love and share that love in their own families and in their church family. Their creations were proudly displayed in an Easter gallery and heart collage that was comprised of hand print tracings of all members of the church. Addison, Amelia, Allie, and Cash say that everyone is welcome to join us at our 9 o'clock service at 70 Main St., Oxford. We love meeting new friends and families!



Masonic Lodge awards scholarships


SOUTHBRIDGE — On June 6, the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge in Southbridge awarded two local girls a \$500 dollar scholarships check. The recipients of the scholarship award attend Shepherd Hill Regional High School located in Dudley, Ma. Scholarships were awarded to Hannah Langevin of Dudley and Abigail Makara of Dudley.

Hannah will be attending New England Institute of Technology in Rhode Island. She will be studying to become a Veterinary Technician. Abigail will be attending Dean College in Franklin. Abigail has not decided on her major of study and will attend as undecided. She would like to explore what the school has to offer before declaring her major. Every year the scholarship committee selects individuals from our local community. This year’s essay subject was “What community service means to me.”


If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org to find a lodge nearest you.

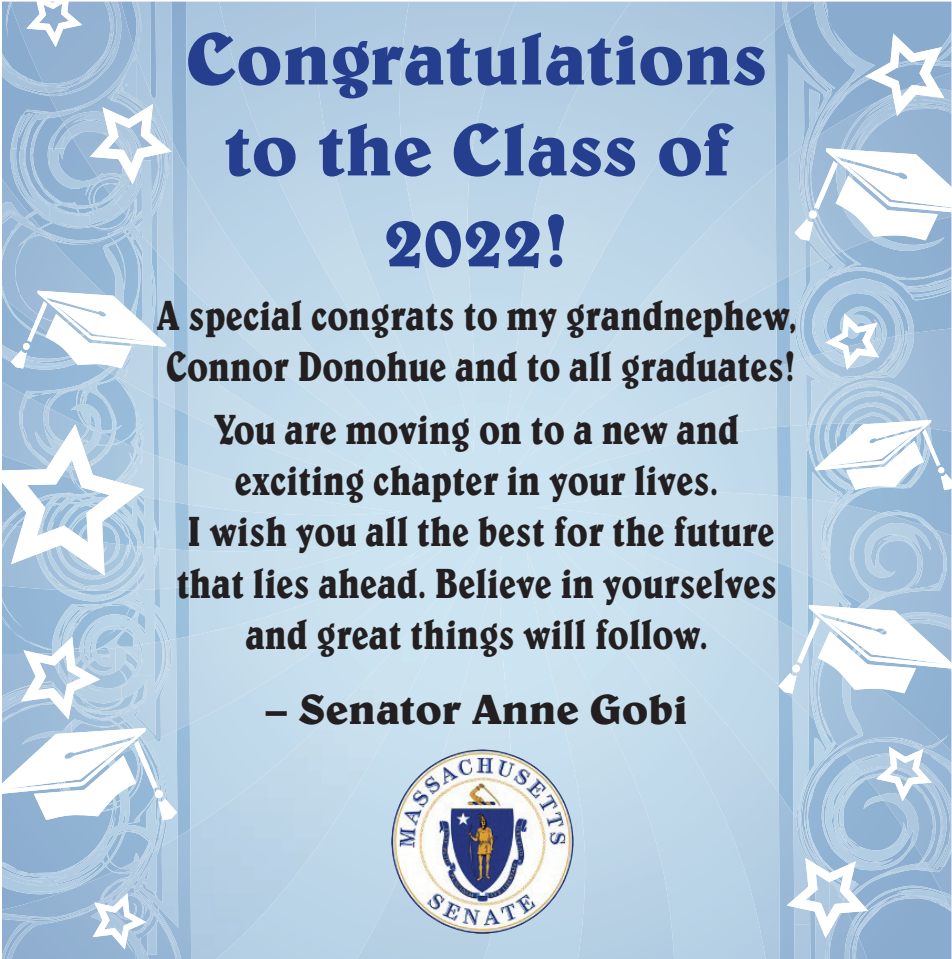
Courtesy

Pictured, left to right: recipient Hannah Langevin holding her scholarship card, Master of Quinebaug Lodge Wor. Bill Belanger and recipient Abigail Makara holding her scholarship card. Both young ladies were very happy to get selected and have a little extra spending money for college.



...from all of us at Stonebridge Press & Villager Newspapers, and from these local businesses. You’ve proven that you can succeed despite the many challenges you’ve had to face during your four years of High School. May these times inspire you to find the strength to reach your goals in spite of adversity, and to find your purpose in life with love, happiness, and respect for all.






Congratulations to the Class of 2022!

A special congrats to my grandnephew, Connor Donohue and to all graduates!

You are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in your lives. I wish you all the best for the future that lies ahead. Believe in yourselves and great things will follow.

– Senator Anne Gobi





Congratulations Graduates!


From all of us at



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is proud to sponsor the

Tantasqua Regional High School 2022 Graduating Class list!

May you bring your very best into the next chapter of your lives.

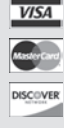
Congratulations!

Name	NHS TECH	Name	NHS TECH	Name	NHS TECH	Name	NHS TECH
Sofia Agayre	X	Varissa L. Esposito	T	Olivia Marie Livingstone	X	Benjamin A. Schoen	T
Nicole Annmarie Alarie	T	Emma Elizabeth Fancy	X	Tyson J. Loftus, Jr.	T	David J. Seaver	T
Cameron Jerard Allen	T	Julia L. Fearing	T	Alyson Lomme	T	Jenna Seery	T
Benjamin Ames	T	LeeAnn Rose Ferraro	T	Dayna Dayna Lorenz	T	Tommy Walker Seguin	T
Ian William Martin Anderson	T	Aidan Douglas Filler	T	Kelsie E. Lucas	T	Brett A. Selvey	T
Jenny Antanavica	T	Ashlyn M. Filler	T	Jameson Honor MacConnell	T	Jack Sheldon	T
Charla Ruth Antonio	T	Caitlyn Marie Freitas	X	Kayla Jade Magoon	T	Libby Sheldon	X
Tyler J. Archambault	T	Amber Lee Friend	T	Christopher Malinowski	T	Alexander E. Shettler	T
Jameson D. Ardis	T	Hannah Frances Furey	X	Alexandria N. Manley	T	Emily Sinclair	T
Haley Emma Arguin	T	Alexandra Garcia	T	Kathleen Mai Mantalavanos	T	Damien J. Smith	T
Loralei Renee Arndt	T	Tatiana Garcia	T	Ryan Christopher Marrara	T	Lorelai Mary Soper	X
Maeve Monroe Ashworth	T	Jack A. Gaudette	X	Edgar Martinez	T	Claire Mae Sosik	T
Lily Audette	T	Aidanne Gaumond	T	Jessica Anne Mawdsley	T	David Michael St Denis	T
Bridget Amelia Azarowski	T	Stephen Mark Gauthier, Jr.	T	Noah Anthony Mayotte	T	Abigail Kathryn Stattenfield	X
Alexandra Jin Yin Backhus	T	Taylor Gay	T	Elise Leanne Mazeika	T	Caroline Anne Stewart	X
Joshua Christopher Baldracchi	T	Kendra Gendreau	T	Adam C. Mazeika	T	Timothy A. Sturtevant	T
Calvin R. Ballou	T	Noah M. Genest	T	Faith Lynn McCormack	X	Chloe Natalie Sullivan-Smith	T
Kiana Kristen Barnes	T	Christina Samantha Ghantous	T	Kylie Rose McDermott	X	Makenzie A. Sweeney	T
Zahki Bastien	T	Jason Anthony Ghizzi	T	Rafael Antonio Mejia, Jr.	T	Kaitlyn I. Sweet	T
Savanna Leigh Beauregard	T	Joshua R. Gianfriddo	T	Lillian Aurora Morrell	T	Isabella Priscilla Sykes	T
Tiffany Marie Bedard	T	William A. Gibb	T	Emily A. Mills	T	Caleb L. Terry	X
Bridget A. Bellezza	X	Walker A. Gill	T	Kristen Alexandra Miranda	T	Jodie S. Thompson	T
William Bellows	T	Zetnae Gabrielle Gingras	T	Laci E. Miranda	T	Dylan P. Thompson	T
Carter F. Belog	X	Zetnae Gispson	T	Hannah Modig	T	Grace Elizabeth Timmins	X
Steven Bertrand	T	Ava Ashleigh Gleason	T	Daniel S. Mojica	T	Joseph Foster Tivnan	T
Robert Birchenough	T	Hunter C. Goguen	T	Tyler Montgomery	T	Cristyn J. Toland	T
Autumn Mae Bissonnette	T	Maxwell M. Gold M. Gold	T	Daniel E. Moran	T	Sharon E. Tringali	T
Nathan K. Blaine	T	Devlin C. Gorman	T	Savannah Christine Gravel	T	Adam Robert Twerser	X
Macy Phillip Blamire	T	Khiya S. Green	T	Naomi Grace Moura	T	Giana Marie Uwazany	T
Jamie Bousquet	T	Michael Greenwell, Jr.	T	Rosalee Elizabeth Mullen	T	Tristen Joseph Vallee	T
Shawn Bradway	T	Robyn Annette Griffin	T	Bianca Marie Mustakangas	T	Ella Ann Vejack	T
Morgan Amber Breed	T	Joseph J. Grocchia	T	Samantha Mullick	T	Katherine Rose Wade	T
Chase W. Brewer	T	Avery Erin Hanrahan	T	Lyli A. O'Brien	T	Shandeep Singh Wahra	T
Anne E. Brower	T	Mya Marylou Harolds	X	Briana Myran	X	Koen Walder	T
Tyler Anthony Anthony Brunetti	T	Evan A. Hemingway	X	Alexis K. Nduyu	T	Sydney Riley Warren	X
Sophia Mia Cadavid	T	Abigail Susan Hill	T	John Wayne Nelson, Jr.	X	Ethan Watkins J. Watkins	T
Madison Cantwell	T	Hunter T. Hill	T	Michael G. Ng	X	Patrick Kirby Weathersby	T
Anthony Joseph Caponi	T	Jade Alexis Holmes	T	Lillian Ruth Nichols	X	Alexis Wegman	T
Nicholas Capurso	T	Megan Elizabeth Hooker	T	Hope Catherine Noonan	X	Benjamin Daniel Widen	T
Colin Walter Carey	T	Drew R. Howard	T	Elly M. Oney	T	Alexander M. Williams	T
Samuel Craig Carson	T	Mercedes Marie Howe	T	Stacy Oney	T	Nate D. Williams	T
Melvin Danery Castafieda Francisco	T	Jayden B. Humphries	T	Eltay Rose Osimo	T	Haley Rose Willits	T
Carter R. Castonguay	T	Danielle Lynn Iacobucci	T	Alexander Joseph Ostrega	T	Nathan L. Winco	X
Paul A. Casuzco	T	Lucas Ison	T	Marlee Mercedes Palmer	X	Joseph Winiarski	T
Cameron C. Chisholm	T	Laurel Elmor Ives	X	Erin Talia Parker	X	Emma P. Winkler	T
Chase Scott Clark	T	Erik R. Jensen	X	Erin Talia Parker	X	Aidan P. Wiseman	T
Abdullah Talib Clay	T	Rylie Johnson	T	Olivia Parker	T	Finn Matthew Wiseman	T
Nicholas James Colangione	T	Joseph A. Joyner	T	Donald Parkes	T	Richard J. Wood	T
Shen Coleman	T	Damien E. Juda	T	Marissa Pascale	T	Derek Paul Worthington, Jr.	T
Owen Galei Gallei Harris Collins	T	Gabriella Anthoula Kaloudis	T	Alexander E. Perri	T	Nathan W. Wright	T
Estrada	T	Madeline Ana Maria Peterson	T	Troy S. Phay	T	Robert Wright	T
Stephen J. Comtois III	T	Joseph P. Poczniak	T	Joseph P. Poczniak	T	Michelle Wu	T
James P. Cooper, Jr.	T	Brenna Crystal Kenneway	T	Katelyn M. Poitras	T	Nathan B. Wyatt	T
Taima-Jay E. Coulombe	T	Anthony John Kimball	T	Roman W. Porter	T	Benjamin H. Yarter	T
Jonah William Cowden	T	Kristian Evan Klages	X	Shailyn Sky Prevost	T		
Aalden A. Crawford	T	Avery S. Knott	T	Christopher Adam Pytel	T		
Joseph R. Cummins	T	Megan Knox	T	Samuel Quirk	T		
Alexis Rose Cutler	T	Ethan G. Kowal	X	Julia Marie Quintal	T		
Kayleigh Elizabeth Dalrymple	T	Nathaniel B. Lacey	T	Jack H. Raczkowski	X		
Nathaniel Damon	T	Madison Rose Latlamme	X	Jessica Amber Radcliff	T		
Charbel J. Daou	T	Emma Lynn Lashlous	T	Eva Marie Rapagnola	T		
Kalier G. Davis	T	Dakota Marie Lamson	T	Rachel Rapose	X		
Angelina Maria DeMartino	X	Brian P. Langevin	X	Jaden Nikole Renaud	T		
Mason Hunter DeSimone	T	Camryn Rose Lapiere	X	Daniel Richard	T		
Daniel C. Distefano	X	Noelle A. Downey	T	Anna Rachelle Roberts	X		
Caleb R. Dodson	X	Ronan Liam Downey	T	Alex Angel Rodriguez	T		
Celeste K. Downey	T	Paige Victoria Latter	T	Cameron J. Rossetti	T		
Rowan Elias Eduardo Latch	T	Sophie Jean Law	T	Alexander J. Rossi	T		
Audrey Louise Doyle	T	Joseph Lazarick	T	Courtney Makenzie Roy	T		
Carren M. Drole	T	Cody J. Leeman	T	Katrina Anne Russell	T		
Connor Egan Dufault	T	Jack Robert Leland	T	Zane L. Salameh	T		
Shannon M. Dunn	X	Isabella Ann Letourneau	T	Matthew Schirm	T		
Faith Susan Eldridge	T						
Bradley E. Ellithorpe	T						
Jessica Britton Ertsgard	X						



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CHARLTON: Aidan Adler, Lana Antocci, Makayla Aubin, Connor Barton, Justin Barton, Jayde Berthiaume, Isaiah Burlingame, Kyle Burlingame, Adriana Carignan, CJ Church, Connor Clardy, Jacob Davis, Kurtis Davis, Marisa DeJesus, Lillian Dolan, Nathan Dreitlein, Lillian Dunkerton, Tricia Gallien, Patrick Gulkun, Haevyn Hazzard, Julia Higgins, Marina Higgins, Molly Johnson, Kailey Jones, Chloe Jordan, Bryce Kaszowski, Zachary Kohberger, Cole Komssi, Ryan Komssi, Taylor Labrecque, Andrew Lavoie, Jacob LeBrun, Alexandra Lundquist, Marguerite MacKenzie, Madigan McManus, Richard Menard IV, Giovanni Morales, Samuel Murillo, Brayden Noleto, Paige Osche, Caden Perry, Jackson Philion, Devin Phillips, Hunter Pociis, Xavier Rodriguez-Bradley, Jacqueline Ross, Jordan Sheehan, Katrina Somers, Ethan Stanley, Kyra Stevens, Joshua Sullivan, Isabella Tanacea, Jeffrey Tighe,

DUDLEY: Kameron Barton, Dominic Benvenuti, Brian Bonnette, Catalina Burden, Harmony Caranci, Ellah Chartier, Stephanie Chege, Jarred Coltran, Chloe Dexter, Madison DiGiantommaso, Marlee Donohoe, Victor Freeman, Brady Garabedian, Shaun Gelinis, Isabella Gervais, Lucas Grant, Julia Graveson, Nathan Gulkun, Christopher Hanley, Morgan Ivory, Kira Kalwarczyk, Jason Kozlowski, Bethany Lasell, John Marchetti, Brandon Martocci, Jonathan O'Connor, Samuel Parker, Michael Pashoian, Krystal Quadarella, Alex Saad, Jack Sansoucy, John Schramm, Aaron Trahan, Owen Vaillancourt

NORTH BROOKFIELD: Diego Canovas, Cody Douglas, Andrew Leach, Casey Levasseur, Alannah Matthews, Rachael Plaud, Jocelyn Rodriguez, Brant Smith

OXFORD: Adrian-Nicky Antwi, Adam Barter, Brianna Bond, Hayden Bourgeois, Rebecca Boutilette, Isabella Capuano, Kaden Cote McGrath, Chad Cutroni, Brayden Decker, May Emsiranunt, Alyssa Evers, Austin Fish, Angelina Friend, Ashley Hamel, Kayleigh Kanz, Lucas Kaufman, Elizabeth King, Zoe Perron LaMountain, Jaylynn Maher, Madison Martin, Allison Maynard, Maxwell Morgan, Haden Carpenter Rodriguez, Samantha Shays, Isabella Strzelecki, Olivia St. Germain, Mateusz Zych

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SOUTHBRIDGE: Kendall Barton, Thomas Benoit, Matthew Bohm, Alexia Brawn, Samantha Brown, Rafe Carlson, Tinaya Chauvin, Aiden Chernisky, Nathaniel Clark, Jonathan Colon, Yadriel Colon Vega, Anaya Compres, Chynna Cote, Dylan Cotton, Aleysha Cruz Merced, Zachary Dubsky, Danielle Gautier, Adelina Gaiquinto, Genesis Gonzalez, Brandie-Lea Heck, Tiffany King, Anthony Lang, Krystal Lavallee, John Martinek, Olivia Morin, William Ofori, Aidan Oosterman, Aaliyah Perez, Elias Perez, Caleb Renaud, Adaluis Rivera, Jordan Rivera, Evanie Rodriguez, Carlos Rosado, Luzvyette Sagastibelza-Lopez, Ethan Shanbaum, Brandon Shippee, Chloe Sicari-Swinimer, Jacob Stevens, Scarlet Taveras Guzman, Francheska Toribio-Polanco, Jalissa Torres, Jomar Torres, Aaliyah Tremblay Collins, Rohan Vaidya, Yamaira Vega Torres, Aaron Williamson

SPENCER: Sotirios Anifantis, Lucas Aubouch, Anna Bonin, Kylie Bouchard, Dylan Butkus, Clayton Constantine, Hailey Cournoyer, Nolan Courtney, Erin Donahue, Johnathan Ferreira, Colin Gagne, Alex Gilfoy, Nicholas Gosselin, Cameron Hafner, Zachary Hinman, Alexandra Jezerski, Logan Johnson, Cody LaMonda, Gianna Legere Olivencia, Lexie MacDonald, Thomas Martin, Anthony Martins, Boru Masiello, Joshua Mazzone, Cadie Miller, Ethan Page, Elizabeth Pilling, Lukas Rafferty, Anthony Seymour, Sarah Simpson, Nicholas Smith, Alden Standish, Cole Thibault, Adriana Vazquez Gonzalez, Lourdes Zuniga

WARREN: Amber Mercon

WEBSTER: Princess Agyeman, Nathaniel Anderson, Gabriella Carlin, Dominic Chivallatti, Abby Christian, Nathan Cuff, Jack Dalton, Anthony Defilippo, Hayden Dery, Robert Gordon, Amie Grenier, Joseph Guinard, Anthony Hudon, Chase Lamprey, Krystina Leary, William LeCuyer, Emma Marcotte, Angelina Ortiz, Kaleb Penafior, Zachary Sargent, Kristina Sylwanovicz, Jared Tucker, Mackenzie Tupaj, Kyle VanCott, Tyler Verrier, Alexia Westmoreland,

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022!

St. Joseph pre-K & Kindergarten students receive diplomas



WEBSTER — On Tuesday, June 7, St. Joseph School Pre-K 4-year-old students and their families gathered in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium to celebrate their accomplishments and receive their diplomas. The cer-

emony began with a procession followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance.” The morning’s program also included the songs “ABC You Later,” “The Lord’s Prayer,” “If I were a Butterfly,” “The Hail Mary,” “Tooty Ta,” and “Thank you.” Then,

the extremely excited students received their diplomas from St. Joseph School Principal Beth Boudreau and then settled into the audience with their parents to view an incredible slide show highlighting events and their achievements



throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Eighteen students advanced to Kindergarten: Maggie Belanger, Kamila Biela, Konrad Blain, Kaja Bobinski, Emmanuela Brunnett, Michaela Chege, Paulina Deptula, Leila Doktor, Catalina Fernandez, Kaya Hellstrom, Madeline Kamangu, Gracelyn McGrail, Grace Muga, Klaudia Obrycki, Pawlina Obrycki, Brooklyn Scott, Wrenna Shemansky, Laura Thomas. St. Joseph School Pre-K students are instructed by Ms. Robyn Dodge and Mrs. Emily Cyganiewicz.

On Wednesday, June 8, St. Joseph School Kindergarten students and their families also gathered in the Richard A. Nowak Gymnasium for their graduation ceremony. The Kindergarten

students processed into the gymnasium wearing traditional St. Joseph School red and white caps and gowns. Once on stage, they began their program by reciting “The Our Father” and “Hail Mary,” followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance.” Each student then took a turn coming forward to the microphone and telling the audience what they want to be when they grow up. Career choices included being Spiderman, a DJ, cheerleader, zookeeper, doctor, police officer, teacher, construction worker, pilot, train conductor, makeup artist, astronaut, and ghostbuster.

The morning culminated with the students singing and dancing to “Peace Like a River,” “Teach Me How to Read!” and “Best Year of Our Lives.” Following the

presentation of diplomas to the students by St. Joseph School Principal Beth Boudreau, families got to view a beautiful slideshow detailing the students’ accomplishments throughout the past year.

Seventeen students advanced to First Grade: Avery Benson, Maksymilian Bujala, Kelsey Cormier, Victoria Czechowski, Patryk Deptula, Hudson Hogan, Maya Jackson, Amalina Khozami, Lily Manning, Kenneth Maurer, Quincy Middleton, Shaelynn O’Dell, Olivia Perry, Austin Runge, Oliver Smith, Emillia Spahl, and Piper Zalewski. Mrs. Samantha Cozza and Mrs. Justine Anthony instruct the St. Joseph School Kindergarten students. Best wishes, students!

Area students receive degrees from Clark University

WORCESTER — Clark University awarded 577 bachelor’s, 489 master’s, and 25 doctoral degrees, and conferred four honorary degrees during the University’s 118th Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 22. Graduates were urged to always ask questions, move forward with confidence, and have the moral clarity to make courageous and meaningful decisions.

Among the graduates were:

Leah Sinclair Brooks, of Oxford, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in English. Brooks is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society.

Casey A. Croteau, of Dudley, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in environmental science.

Tyler Brayton, of Webster, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in interactive media.

George Zachary Grammatikakis, of Dudley, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in interactive media.

Noah Anthony Karlon, of Webster, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in interactive media.

Andrew David Ravenelle, of North Oxford, graduated with a Master of Science in

Environmental Science and Policy.

President David B. Fithian, who received his degree from Clark in 1987 and is the first alumnus to lead the university, implored the graduates to always be curious.

“You came to Clark looking for answers - about subjects that interest you, about yourself, and about the world - and I hope you found some,” he said. “But as you leave here, I hope Clark has helped you to ask more, different, and better questions. Every question is a chance to hear something you may never have heard before. This iterative process of questions and answers is crucial to your lifelong journey of learning and will enrich your life at every stage along that path.”

Mary Frances Berry, a renowned scholar, civil rights activist, and the Geraldine R. Segal Professor Emerita of American Social Thought at the University of Pennsylvania, delivered the commencement address. Berry told the graduates that they have a moral obligation to contribute to society.

“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politick, nor popular, but you must take it because it is right,” she insisted.

In addition to Berry,

honorary degrees were granted to David P. Angel, who led Clark as its ninth president (2010 to 2020) and whose academic and administrative career at the University spanned 33 years; Annette Gordon-Reed, the Carl M. Loeb University Professor at Harvard University whose Pulitzer Prize-winning book “The Hemingses of Monticello” forced a reconsideration of accepted historical narratives; and Doug Wright, the playwright, librettist, and screenwriter whose works include “I Am My Own Wife,” which won the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize.

For more information, visit www.clarku.edu/commencement/.

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow’s most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

Hofstra University congratulates Spring 2022 Dean’s List Students

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Hofstra University congratulates the students named to the Spring 2022 Dean’s List for their outstanding academic achievement. Students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 during the semester to make the Dean’s List.

Local students earning this honor include:
Caroline Fabian of Webster
Trinity Semo of Dudley

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

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Adelynn Marie Benoit	Lucas Taylor Grondin	Julia Ann Psuk
Camden Joseph Bergeron	Sarah Beth Hamilton	Joselyn Mahala Richards
Ryan Gregory Bernard	Jillian Marie Harper	Isabelle Marie Rindone
Morgan Kelsey Berthiaume	Korinne Ella Heirtz	Kailey Lynn Salera
Max Joseph Bolandrina	Joseph Michael Hennessy	Chase Alan Setzer
Kaylee Rynae Bolin	Natalie Antoinette Houle	Jacob Douglas Simmons
Savanna Marie Brito	Tyler David Jordan	Reece Elizabeth Slowik
Brendan Michael Calkins	Nicholas Steven Kannally	Victoria Jacquelynn Slowik
Ryan Robert Campo	Connor James Kuchinski	Paul Andrew Smith
Zophia Marie Cherrier	Joseph Scott LaBonne	Arianna Souphida
Angel Collazo	Matthew Philip Landry	Andrew Joseph Squier
Alexandra Rose Criasia	Eva Noelle Llopiz	Fredrick Susan St. Laurent
Abigail Lynn Damasio	Daniel Bruno MacInnis	Triniti Nevaeh-Eve Sughrue
John Dariotis	Benjamin William Markey	Michael Joseph Sullivan
Benjamin Carter Davis	Dana Louise Markey	Katelyn Emily Surette
Miranda Frances DeGaetano	Aleisha Rae Martinsen	Brianna Nichole Taft
Sarah Rose Delorme	Stephanie Ann McGloin	Josephine Rose Thomas
Anthony Robert DeLuca	Kayla Darian Melvin	Andrew James Tretheway
Anthony Scott DeMeo	Finn Mitchell	Jacob Jerry Triber
Owen James Diotte	Olivia Marie Muscatell	Haleigh Ann Wagner
Anahlise Mae Fano	Samantha Kathleen Novinger	Patrick Steven Welliver
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Connor Nicholas Fleming	Trevor William Oliver	Nicholas Keith White
Gavin Mikele Francisco	Shantai Elizabeth Pabon-Tsavidis	Trevor Allen Wiles
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KNIT & CROCHET GROUP
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday
10:00AM-12:00PM
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

POKEMON CLUB
Tuesdays @ 3:30PM
Calling all Pokemon fans! Children ages 7 to 14 are
invited to join our club. This meeting will be a great
opportunity to meet other players and share ideas.
Please make sure you bring your trading cards and
anything else you would like to share and discuss.

LUNCH & STORYTIME – BEGINNING JUNE 22ND
Wednesdays @ Noon
Bring your lunch and join Miss Lida for storytime
and songs, plus a different take-home craft each week.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

LEGO CHALLENGE CLUB
Wednesdays @ 3:30PM
Come join us each week for a different Lego chal-
lenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a
Lego zipline. Ages 5+

ADULT BOOK GROUP
Third Thursday, 6:00PM-7:30PM
The adult book group meets for an informal dis-
cussion of the month’s title, which is available at the
circulation desk a month prior to the meeting. For the
current month’s title see our website.

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT WITH DEB HUDGINS
Thursday, June 16 10:30AM-11:00AM
This is a 30 minute interactive program featuring
singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments,
stories and variety of fun props, including a para-
chute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These pro-
grams are theme-based, and cover everything from
holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

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**SUMMER READING KICKOFF EVENT: ANIMAL
ADVENTURES**

Saturday, June 18 11:00AM-Noon
We will have Animal Adventures here with
eight to ten animals presented in a one-hour
session. Meet the animals, hear interesting sto-
ries and information about them and get close.
Controlled petting and touching is allowed
at the discretion of the Animal Adventure
Guide. A fun and unique learning experience
to be enjoyed by all! We will have a Skink,
Porcupine, and Coati!

Sign up for Summer Reading while you are
here!
All children must be accompanied by an
adult.
Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K
Crawford Endowment.

MESSY ART
Tuesday, June 21 10:30AM-11:30AM
Create your very own messy masterpiece
using a variety of supplies and fun tech-
niques. For ages 2-6.

Free; children under 12 must be accompa-
nied by an adult.

BRACELET WEAVING
Wednesday, June 22 2:00PM-4:00PM
Ages 6+ are invited to learn to weave their
own bracelet using drinking straws and yarn.

Free; children under 12 must be accompa-
nied by an adult

MAKE YOUR OWN FIDGET

Thursday, June 23 1:00PM-3:00PM
Drop in any time between 1:00 and 3:00 to make your
own fidget using water beads and a balloon.

For children ages 4+.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

DROP IN SLIME MAKING
Friday, June 24 2:00PM-4:00PM
Drop in and make your own slime to take home,
with fun add-ins to choose from.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

CRAFT BOOTCAMP: LEARN TO CROCHET
Monday, June 27 5:00PM-6:00PM
Learn the basic crochet stitches that you can use
for many projects. Yarn and crochet hooks provid-
ed. For ages 10+ - teens and adults welcome too!

Space is limited – registration is required.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

MAKE A SOLAR OVEN
Tuesday, June 28 1:00PM-2:00PM

Learn to make a solar oven from a pizza box, and
take home all the ingredients to test it out by making
your own s’mores.

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

CAMP BALLOON MAGIC
Wednesday, June 29 2:00PM-2:45PM
Camp Balloon Magic is an interactive performance
that features a variety of challenges for the “camp-
ers” in attendance. Big Balloon Sports, Animal
Identification, Magic 101, and of course the giant
6-foot balloon!

Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an
adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford
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PEARLE JAM: TIM VAN EGMOND
Thursday, June 30 6:00PM-7:45PM
The annual Pearle Jam concert series kicks off with
folksinger and storyteller Tim Van Egmond.

Free; open to all ages. Children under 12 must be
accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford
Endowment.

Congratulations to St. Joseph School’s published poets!

WEBSTER — Since 2002, Mrs. Lefebvre’s Grade 6, 7, and 8 Language Arts students have entered their
original poems in Creative Communication’s spring poetry contest. Poems are selected for publication
based on their literary merit, creativity, or social significance. Twenty-nine students will have their
poetry published in the Spring 2022 edition of A Celebration of Poets. Grade 6: Colton Haase, Molly
Hachigian, Laura Ibrahim, Jack Keller, Alan Kulpa, John O’Melia, Emily Macko, Ella Parslow, and
Max Podgorny; Grade 7: Emerson Bernard, Leah Boudreau, Bella Calnan, Vanessa Cieszynski, Haleigh
Creighton, Bobbi Enman, Alexander Kowalski, Jacob Perry, Gabriela Pianka, and Gianna Rosario;
Grade 8 : Andrew Bergeron, Connor Czechowski, Aleksandra Kurowski, Bradley McCarthy, Matthew
Obrycki, Alexandra Parafinowicz, Juliana Rudnicki, Hannah Watson, and Matthew Zdrok.

St. Joseph School will be recognized in the anthology for receiving a “Writing Achievement
Award.” This honor is given to the top 10 percent of the schools that entered the contest and whose
students’ entries are of exceptionally high merit. In addition, St. Joseph School is among the top ten
schools that participate in Creative Communications, poetry contests with over 300 poems selected for
publication.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DiNICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news
PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagenewspapers.com

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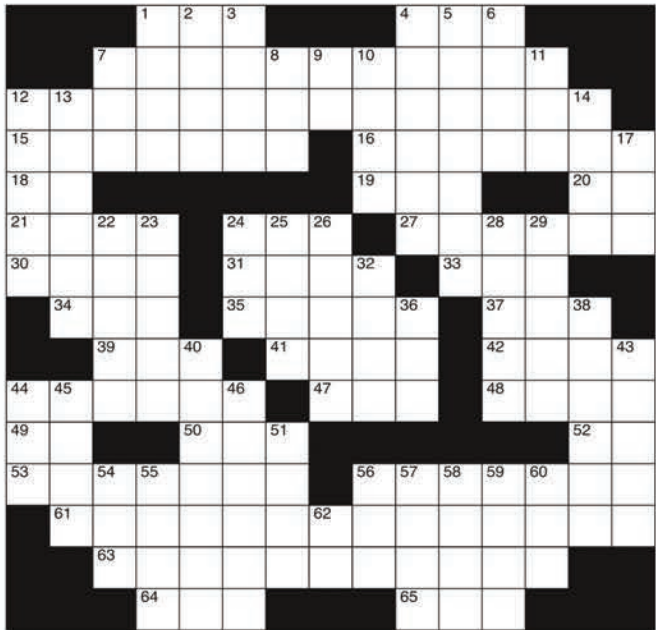


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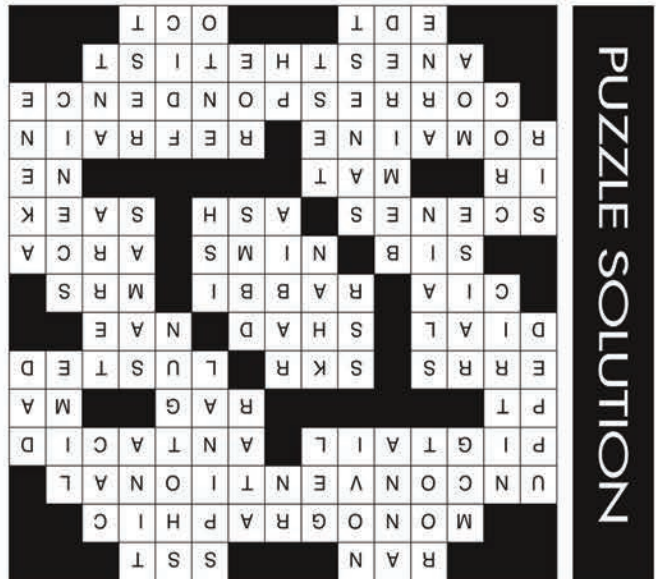


CLUES ACROSS

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Moved quickly | 37. Married woman |
| 4. Ocean temperature | 39. Blood relation |
| 7. Scholarly book series | 41. German river |
| 12. Irregular | 42. Genus of clams |
| 15. Hairstyle | 44. Parts of a movie |
| 16. Indigestion fixer | 47. Residue |
| 18. Special therapy | 48. Ethnic group of Laos and
Thailand |
| 19. Mock | 49. Atomic #77 |
| 20. Partner to Pa | 50. Where wrestlers work |
| 21. Strays | 52. Northeast |
| 24. Swedish currency (abbr.) | 53. Type of lettuce |
| 27. Desired | 56. Abstain |
| 30. Soap product | 61. Communication between two |
| 31. Traditional fishing boat | 63. One who administers medicine |
| 33. No (Scottish) | 64. Sun up in New York |
| 34. Spy organization | 65. Having eight |
| 35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish
congregation | |

CLUES DOWN

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. He played “Milton” | 28. Semitic Sun god |
| 2. Elsa’s sister | 29. Land |
| 3. Digital wallet | 32. Database management system |
| 4. About backbone | 36. Similar |
| 5. Type of weapon | 38. Nice to look at |
| 6. __ Turner, rock singer | 40. Covered with mud |
| 7. Microgram | 43. Simple dry fruit |
| 8. Hair product | 44. Title of respect |
| 9. Health care pro | 45. Type of footwear |
| 10. Holy fire | 46. Most lucid |
| 11. Military ID (abbr.) | 51. Exam |
| 12. __ the ante | 54. Extinct flightless bird of New
Zealand |
| 13. Containing nitrogen | 55. “Rule, Britannia” composer |
| 14. Green citrus fruit | 56. Small Eurasian deer |
| 17. Male parent | 57. “Within” |
| 22. Bring up | 58. Insures bank’s depositors |
| 23. Murdered | 59. A pause for relaxation |
| 25. Soviet Socialist Republic | 60. Social insect |
| 26. Social media hand gesture | 62. Expresses acidity |



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Fridays 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Evening appointments if needed.

*Note: Office hours are for selectmen’s secretary
and town administrator. S
electmen do not hold office hours.*

Town Clerk (949-8004)

Monday-Thursday.....8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday nights 5 to 7 p.m.
Fridays9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)

Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week

DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)

Monday-Sunday.....6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027

Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours{

Monday, Tues., Thurs.....9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156)

For emergencies, call 911

OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)

Monday-Friday8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

WEBSTER TOWN HALL (508) 949-3850

Office Hours:

Monday8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT
(943-1212)**

For emergencies, call 911

WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)

Monday-Friday8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

DUDLEY

POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported only one arrest during the week of June 3-10.

A 47-year-old male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on June 3 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Strangulation or Suffocation.

REAL ESTATE

Dudley

\$430,000, 336 Mason Rd Ext, Krukowski, Thomas F, to Knop, Juliene, and Mahadeo, Christopher A.

\$400,000, 257 W Main St, Kuzdzal, Donald H, and Kuzdzal, Florence E, to NPJ RT, and Goulas, George P.

\$305,000, 104 Mason Rd, 104 Mason Road NT, and Connor Land T LLC Tr, to Loewe, Jonathan M, and Aquino, Lisa.

\$223,333, 56 Mason Rd, Standrowicz, Steven P, and Lavoie, Lisa J, to Kopas, Cheryl, and Kopas, Jan.

\$180,000, 15 West St, Clifford J Kos RE/T, and Kos, Clifford J, to Home By Holly LLC.

\$150,000, Intervale Cir #1, Dasilva Amarildo S Est, and Dasilva, Sheyla, to Sullivan, Cameron.

\$100,000, 11 Truman Dr, Galaxy Estates LLC, to Fynn, Ato D.

Oxford

\$525,000, 234 Federal Hill Rd, Bouvier FT, and Bouvier, Keith A, to Toedt, Matthew, and Toedt, Sara A.

\$480,000, 4 Garrison Heights Dr, Bouley FT, and Bouley, Christopher A, to Dasilva Jr, Nirson G.

\$411,000, 48 Walnut St, Toedt, Matthew T, and Toedt, Sara A, to Benway, Dean.

\$400,000, 47 Walnut St, Pelka, Magdalena, and Pelka, Sebastian, to Kujawski, Jonathan, and Kujawski, Monika.

\$267,000, 8 Plantation Rd #8, Pratt, Robert J, and Pratt, Elizabeth R, to Andersen, Amanda M.

\$225,000, 12 Water St, Conant, Michael G, to Anderozzi, Kristen.

\$160,000, 11 Thayer Pond Dr #10, Pichie, Carrie B, to Skolnick, Amy.

\$10,000, Route 20 (off), Yurkevicius, Jean, to Belanger, Joseph.

Webster

\$460,000, 61 Poland St, George, Jesse B, to Lima, Carlos A.

\$375,000, 47 Old Worcester Rd, Balducci, Tovah B, to Melendez, Samantha.

Vanessa Brown, MD
Medical Director
Day Kimball Hospital
Emergency Department

Steven Wexler, MD
Chairman of Day Kimball Hospital
Emergency Department,
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Some of the audience wait for the seniors to promenade on to the football field for their ceremonies.

Bartlett bids farewell to Class of 2022



Photos Gus Steeves
Valedictorian Amanda Warchal



Class President Artur Sochacki and Vice President Colin Minarik lead the senior procession.



Two of the band's drummers keep the beat for the arriving seniors.



A few friends of Jolin Etpison show their support.



Guitarist Jay Whitney leads the seniors in their class song, One Direction's "I Lived."



Paige Blythe gets her diploma and a hug from mom, School Committeewoman Sheila Blythe.



Darrion Sheppard does a little dance after getting his diploma.



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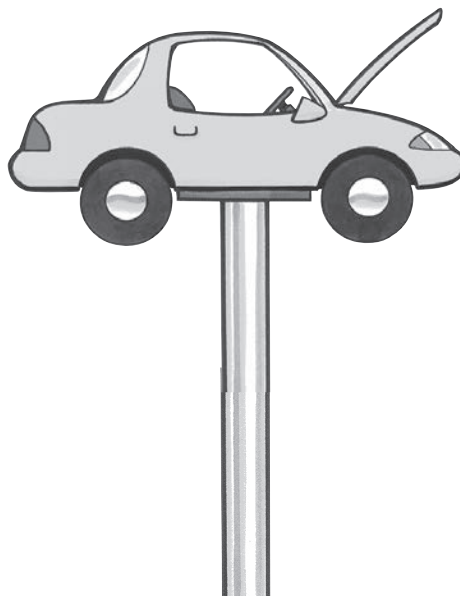
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Make the most of the life ahead of you

Students around the region are flipping tassels this week, participating in a traditional rite of passage, generally symbolizing their transition to adulthood. With more and more people becoming vaccinated, ceremonies are looking a bit more traditional than they did last year.

Many seniors and their underclassmen counterparts have faced big changes as they navigate the world after a global pandemic. This time in an 18-year-old’s life is still quite pivotal.

Students will be bombarded with advice and speeches as these final weeks unfold. Our favorite bit of advice, however, is the following:

1. Don’t smoke
2. Drink plenty of water every day
3. Wear sunscreen (your 40-year-old selves will thank you)
4. Spend as much time as humanly possible outside; and
5. Watch the Back to the Future trilogy.

The most important thing you can do, however, is to find out who you are. From there, the entire world opens up. Do not limit your lives to the same scene and same people you have always surrounded yourself with. This doesn’t mean you need to forget people or places, it simply means that now is a great time to branch out. The more people you meet in different places, with different experiences will shed light on who you really are.

Always remember your roots. These are what has shaped you and prepared you for your next chapter. Remember how important your community has been to you, and remember to always give back.

Always practice kindness, even when it’s hard. The world can aggravate and frustrate the most mellow of us. Anger is a normal human emotion, however it’s what you do with it that really matters. If you have disagreements or you think the way you feel about a certain issue is correct, remember to not let your anger take you over. It never feels good, plus harboring too much anger and discontent ages us, plus it’s really no fun. The more fun and kindness you have in your life, the happier you are. Try to find balance between your work and your leisure time. Spend time doing the things you love, and never forget what those things are, despite how busy your life may become.

As you go through life, you will make mistakes. None of us are perfect and mistakes can actually define who we become if we learn from them. The best formula for mistake making, is to own up to them, have some self-awareness, be gentle on yourself, learn, then move on. Simple.

Remember to follow your own gut, always, no matter what. This is your life, and you need to make it what it is and what it will be.

Congratulations to the class of 2022!

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bartlett renovation will ensure the success of our students

To the Editor:

The educational benefits of the proposed Bartlett High School renovation project have been lost in the debate over the financial feasibility of the project. Bartlett was designed and built for a 1970’s educational model that no longer serves the needs of 21st century students. As stated in the School Building Committee’s “Story of a School” presentation, “Education has Changed-Students have Changed-Job Markets have Changed.” It’s time to change the school building in response.

The renovation proposal was designed around the current and future needs of Webster’s students. It moves away from a traditional high school model, expanding hands-on learning and learning experiences that build on internships, industry credentialing, and courses designed in collaboration with industry. The redesigned school will allow Webster students to thrive in the new Innovation Pathways program that focuses on manufacturing and healthcare. For the many Bartlett students that are not going to college, these programs will provide them with the education needed for high paying jobs in the manufacturing and healthcare industries.

Some people believe that these programs duplicate what Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School offers, but these programs differ from Bay Path’s programs. In addition, not all students who apply to Bay Path are accepted, as there is a large waiting list. If students are not on a college path, then Webster should offer them a career path

right out of high school.

The current outdated layout of the school does not allow for the collaborative and project-oriented style of education that our students need. Repairing the roof and the boiler does not address this design failure. It is the responsibility of all of us as citizens to ensure that our young people are given the opportunity to thrive in an atmosphere that is productive, safe, and comfortable.

Education is not always about dollars and test scores. Behind the numbers are real young people who need to be prepared in our rapidly changing and challenging world. We can and should be concerned about the burden that our local property taxes place on our citizens, but we also have to balance that with the needs of our young people who are starting out with nothing. Let’s give them the advantages of a 21st-century education in a 21st century school. Other generations before us made financial sacrifices for us. We should “pay it forward” as they did.

I implore everyone who wants to provide Webster’s youth with the best opportunity to thrive as citizens of our town to attend the Special Town Meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 21 at Bartlett High School to approve the BHS renovation project and then again to vote for the debt exclusion on Tuesday, June 28 at the Webster Town Hall. We should not squander this opportunity to ensure the success of the current and future generations of young people in our town.

KENNETH MANDILE
WEBSTER

Join me in supporting the Bartlett renovation project

To the Editor:

I am writing to humbly ask for your support for the proposed Bartlett High School renovation project.

The political calculus as your State Representative is very simple. Stay quiet and stay away from this issue. It is far too divisive, I have not been asked directly by voters of what I feel should be done, and to put it bluntly; my core of political support is largely against this project.

However, I believe that as an elected official it is my obligation not to do what is easy or politically advantageous, but to do what I believe is right. For me, this project is what is right, and I would feel negligent in my responsibilities if I did not speak up.

To be clear, I am and always will be a fiscal conservative. I am against broad taxes, and I am for limited government. However, there is an enormous difference between broad state-based taxes funneled into a general fund to be spent with little oversight by Beacon Hill politicians, and a very specific debt-exclusion with the clear and concrete purpose of building or improving a local capital asset.

Yes, the ask is high. Given the current fiscal conditions across the country this is even more acutely felt. I wish this were not the case, but I will not sugar-coat the fact that this will be an expensive project. However, it can be said with certainty that waiting will not somehow reduce the costs. In fact, the costs will grow very quickly and there is no way to know how long a potential recession, or our current inflationary climate, will last.

With that said, I believe that if you look at the project objectively and with an open mind, you must conclude that to vote against this project will be financially ruinous to the town while also condemning Bartlett to continued physical decline in the face of a perfect opportunity to provide a significant improvement at a reduced cost.

There is no way to avoid the fact that the Bartlett building needs repair. Whether or not we have come to this point through negligence, mismanagement, and poor upkeep as I have been told – though I disagree with this argument – I believe is a moot point. We must make this decision looking forward for the future of the school and our children’s education, not based on what happened ten or twenty years ago. In fact, it was actually prudent fiscal decision making over the past several years to defer the larger maintenance projects with the expectation that the state would pay for them as part of this very project. If your car needs new tires and a transmission and you can pay full price today or wait until the dealer’s 50 percent sale next week, every single one of us would take advantage of someone else paying for the repairs.

The same logic plays out looking forward if the project were to be rejected. The repairs and renovations will be needed. Our building inspector and Fire department have made clear that they cannot in good conscience continue to give a pass to the school for things such as deficient or non-existent sprinklers, plumbing, heating, and electrical systems, and the roof. To say “no” to 50 percent state funding today will only guarantee that the town will bear 100 percent of this cost over the next five to ten years, all while costs dramatically increase. Furthermore, these costs will not include any fundamental improve-

ments to the building, they will simply be maintenance to keep a status quo. We would be paying tens of millions more, to receive a far inferior project, that will take many years longer to complete. I cannot see any logic in this decision.

A principal argument against this vote has been that the town should either do this project piecemeal – or do a full tear-down and rebuild. Many have said that the town and/or school committee did not conduct a full due diligence. However, I know with certainty that a full analysis of these alternatives was completed and carefully considered by the town. In fact, this research was presented at a public meeting all could attend and has been made available online since. To say otherwise is patently false and disingenuous. Yes, I think it would have been wise to share the costs of these alternatives in more detail while perhaps giving the public the choice between project A, B, or C – however, to dwell on this point now distracts from the fact that we have a clear choice in front of us.

To attempt to do these necessary maintenance projects in stages moving forward would trigger an automatic review from the state’s Architectural Access Board for handicap accessibility compliance. Much of the physical structure would fail this review, meaning that significant work would be needed immediately simply to meet code compliances, dramatically increasing the project costs due up front without providing any tangible improvements or upgrades – all with Webster paying 100 percent of the costs because we said ‘no’ to State funding. Once again, this simply does not make sense to me.

Finally, I will appeal to those voting no because of the impact on their property taxes to consider instead the impact on their property values. It is a long known real estate truth that the strength of a school district impacts a town’s property values. While I do not believe that a school district’s physical capital makes the district good or bad, I do believe that it shows the level of commitment and support from the town and is a substantial leg-up to fostering a strong school district; especially as teaching methods and student learning has changed dramatically in the past 40 years. With the assumption that homeowners in Webster would like to see their home and property values continue to rise, I think it becomes very important to show a commitment and dedication on behalf of the whole town for our schools.

I know this is not an easy ask, and that the timing is poor. But I also know that many of those who have expressed a ‘no’ opinion on this project are paradoxically the very same people who have the most vocal pride for Webster and for their own experiences at Bartlett. Such pride for ‘what was’ must be met with investment and commitment to ensure that it is not just a nostalgic memory but a legacy for our kids and grandkids as well.

Not only as your Representative, but as a Webster resident and the father of a 14-month-old son with another on the way who I hope can attend wonderful schools here in town, I once again ask you to consider supporting the Bartlett project at the Special Town Meeting on June 21 (at Bartlett High School at 6:30 p.m.) and to also vote yes at the ballot box on June 28.

Thank you,

REP. JOE McKENNA
WEBSTER

If you’re under 16, strap on that bike helmet



CHIEF’S CORNER

STEVE WOJNAR

By Chief Steven J. Wojnar
Dudley Police Department

The issue of bicycle regulations was brought up to me recently. Many individuals of all ages are out and about riding bicycles on the streets now that the warm weather is here.

The person recently saw what appeared to be a pre-teen riding a bicycle without a helmet. I was asked to explain the rules regarding helmets.

All bicycle riders are required to follow the traffic laws of the Commonwealth. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 85 Section 11B is the major law governing operation and equipment requirements for bicycles. It authorizes the use of bicycles on all public ways, except for limited access highways. The law specifies several rules for bicyclists, including allowing bikes to travel on sidewalks, when necessary, in the interest of safety. In these instances, the rider is required to yield the right of way to pedestrians on sidewalks and to “give an audible signal before overtaking and passing any pedestrian.”

The portion of this law which addresses helmets is listed under Section (iii). It states in part, “Any person 16 years of age or younger operating a bicycle or being carried as a passenger on a bicycle on a public way, bicycle path or on any other public right-of-way shall wear a helmet. Said helmet shall fit the person’s head, shall be secured to the person’s head by straps while the bicycle is being operated, and shall meet the standards for helmets established by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission. These requirements shall not apply to a passenger if the passenger is in an enclosed trailer or other device which adequately holds the passenger in place and protects the passenger’s head from impact in an accident.” Therefore, anyone 16 or younger, riding in public places, must wear an appropriate helmet. It is optional, and strongly encouraged, for those over age 16. The penalty for a violation mostly consists of a twenty-dollar civil fine. These and other regulations are designed to encourage safety. Many people have been seriously injured or killed while riding bikes on the roads. We have experienced several car vs bicycle incidents in recent weeks. Everyone using the road must observe the proper rules and conduct to avoid these accidents and injuries.

For those who are reading this article on social media or on-line prior to Saturday, June 11, you may be in luck for some valuable information. The Annual Bicycle Rodeo is scheduled for Saturday, June 11 from 1-3 p.m. on the campus of Nichols College. This is a great opportunity for parents and children to have their equipment checked, learn about the rules of the road, and participate in fun activities. Check out the information on the town’s Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/townofdudley> or contact the Board Health Office at the number below for further details.

For those still seeking vaccination or COVID related information, it can be found at www.dudleyma.gov or by calling 508-949-8036. During these challenging times, we, at the Dudley Police Department, greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department, 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at swojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

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We need to do more than just pray


The “unthinkable” has happened once again with the latest school shooting in Uvalde, Texas recently, following the supermarket and racist shooting in Buffalo. And yet, is it really “unthinkable?” Unfortunately, we all are becoming desensitized to these horrific, mass killings. Unfortunately, they are not so unthinkable anymore. They have become too common, and we all are just waiting for the next one to happen. Sadly, we all realize that it may happen closer to home, in our own schools, among our own people, sooner than later.

What lead a person to commit such a heinous act? A person must be quite broken and filled with darkness. They must feel quite confused and angry, allowing them to turn to extreme violence. These perpetrators are not some monsters but people like those all around us. Mentally strained and confused individuals who have given into the darkest demons that haunt all of us.

Many will say we need to do more than simply offer our thoughts and prayers for the victims and their families. But what must we do? What

can we do? As a society, we have turned away from God and His ways. We no longer live in a society influenced by a Christian world view but we live in a post-Christian society. Our society no longer offers a strong community foundation, where we know one another, take interest in one another, reach out and care for one another. Our hyper-individualistic society leaves many people feeling extremely alone, lonely, separated from others. These confused people then find an attraction to extreme groups and ideologies, groups often fueled by fear and anger.

Our society has witnessed this community break-up where families no longer spend time together and people feel so alone. I think of our own church community where many of the older generation will fondly remember the time when they used to visit one another for everyone’s name day and for the major feast days of the Church. Families would



BEYOND THE PEWS

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

come together, and people were connected with one another. Yet now, I often hear how so many people feel all alone. It’s not just the elderly who feel all alone. I think of our Church’s Living Bread Luncheon which we offer on the first Saturday of each month and think of people in our local community who come not because they necessarily need a free meal, but more so because they want some company. Some feel alone. And this illness of loneliness plagues all ages!

Then we have a society so focused on violence – from the violent video games our kids constantly play, to the violent movies whose images fill our minds, to the violent news we watch every day on the news channels. With each school shooting, confused and lonely people just get more and more ideas for what they can do!

We need to do more than just pray for the victims and their families. But what must we do? What can we do?

When we think about the latest mass shootings, we need to do more than just offer our prayers and thoughts for the victims and their families. We need to discover or rediscover what our Christian faith teaches and ask God, “What is it that you want me to do?” Of course, we need to push our government officials to address the many complex issues of gun safety, school safety, mental health issues and other such things. We can’t just hold on to the status quo but we need to try different approaches to the brokenness and violence of our society. We can’t just wait for others to do something!

Individually, how can each one of us try to reach out to those who are lonely, those who may seem lost, those who may seem overwhelmed with life, those who are broken and confused, and even those who may seem like they are on a dangerous path of destruction – self-destruction or communal destruction. Can we keep an attentive eye out for such people in our midst?

Can we reach out with love and befriending them? Can we act as the one who fills up the lonely space they have in their lives?

To reach out to others takes effort, it takes time, it takes a commitment, it takes risk, it takes a serious understanding that this is a responsibility each of us have as followers of Jesus Christ. Our Lord asks us to create communities of faith that care for one another. He asks us to cultivate our local Church into a family where we truly know one another, enter in the lives of one another, care for one another, sacrifice for one another, and be there for one another. And our Church Families need to act as authentic witnesses of loving community to the world around us!

Yet, we can’t stop only with this goal. How can all of us reach out to the larger community and create the same type of loving spirit where we reach out, care for, and love others?? Can we do it in a way where we befriend others,

mentor others, become lights in the lives of others who are lost in their loneliness, in their confusion, in their extreme anger and hatred.

What can we do in the aftermath of another school shooting and a supermarket shooting? Can we make a decision to become a big brother or sister to someone, truly mentoring them and becoming a friendly influence in the lives of those who may seem to be lost? Imagine if someone did that to the most recent killers? Imagine if he had a whole community reaching out to him, trying to love him, guide him, care for him, and influence him!

We need to do more than just offer prayers and thoughts for the victims and their families. We need to fulfill our calling as followers of Jesus Christ, and truly begin reaching out as a loving presence to a hurting world all around us!

What is your investment risk tolerance?

Risk is a normal part of investing. If you didn’t take on any risk, you wouldn’t have the potential to achieve higher returns. But how much risk should you accept?

You don’t want to incur unnecessary risk. So, you’ll need to assess the amount of risk you’re comfortable taking and then determine if this risk level supports your ability to achieve your long-term goals.

Here are some of the key factors in determining your own capacity for investment risk:

Personality – We all have different personalities. And your individual personality can certainly affect your comfort level with risk. If you enjoy taking chances or pushing yourself outside your comfort zone in other aspects of your life, you could be more likely to accept greater investment risk, too, because you know that greater risk means greater potential reward. Conversely, higher-risk investments also carry greater potential for volatility, including steep short-term declines.

Time – Risk tolerance can change over time. When you are first starting out in your career, with decades to go until you retire, you may feel comfortable with a certain degree of investment risk, knowing you have time to potentially overcome the inevitable downturns in the financial markets. But as you near retirement, you might consider lowering your risk level and investing more conservatively, because once you do retire, you’ll likely have to start withdrawing money from your retirement accounts, which means you may need to liquidate some investments – and, ideally, you won’t want to have large fluctuations in value at that time. However, even during retirement,

you may want your portfolio to include some growth-oriented investments to help keep you ahead of inflation.

Type of goal – You might have different risk tolerances for different goals. For example, if you know you need a specific amount for a particular goal in two years – such as buying a new car or taking an overseas vacation – you may want to put away money in a low-risk, liquid vehicle. This type of investment might not have much growth potential, but for this goal, you are less interested in achieving a high rate of return than you are in being reasonably sure the money will be there when you need it. So, in this instance, you may have quite a low tolerance for risk. But for a long-term goal, such as a comfortable retirement, you may be prepared to take more risk in the hopes of greater returns, given the longer time horizon.

By understanding your risk tolerance and knowing how it can change over time and under different circumstances, you can be better prepared to face investment volatility. And there are certainly things you can do to mitigate risk. By owning a variety of investments – domestic and international stocks, bonds, mutual funds, government securities and so on – you can reduce the impact of market volatility on your portfolio. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can’t prevent all losses or guarantee profits.)

In any case, the biggest risk of all is simply not investing. If you are going to achieve your financial goals, you need to invest for them. By understanding your own risk tolerance, and by making wise choices along the way, you can stick with an investment strategy that can work for you in the long run.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones

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

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Courtesy

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

The Captain Job Knapp Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution announces that Abagayle Rose Fournier of Webster was recently installed as a member of the Chapter. Abagayle is the granddaughter of Webster resident Margaret Fournier, Chapter Registrar. Abagayle is a dispatcher with the Southern Worcester County Communications Center. The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a volunteer women’s service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and securing America’s future through better education for children. It is a nonprofit, non-political, volunteer women’s service organization. Any woman who has an ancestor who fought in or rendered aid in the American Revolution may be eligible for membership in DAR. For information, contact Regent Anne Marie Safaei at 508-949-0926.






Photo by Alicia Jost

Friday’s Child

I like new experiences!

Kalyn is a very bright, sweet and caring girl of Caucasian descent. Proficient in school, Kalyn loves books and writing. She would love to write and publish a novel some day. As of school year 2021-2022 she attends the 8th grade. She can create an array of elaborate art projects with much detail. Kalyn participates in an “after school” program four nights a week which includes volunteering at a Humane Society and participating in a theater group. Outdoor activities like hiking also of interest Kalyn. Her favorite indoor activity in her group home setting is cooking. She has dry and witty sense of humor. She would like attend college in the future.

Legally freed for adoption, Kalyn has expressed that she is ready to be matched with her forever family and that she would like to be part of her adoption process. She feels that she would fit in best with a single or 2 mom family. She would do well in a home with older children or no other children. She should also be allowed to make mistakes, learn from them and be forgiving for them. She will need to maintain contact, including monthly “in person” visits, with her siblings living in western and eastern MA.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7019>

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, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.



Collecting local memorabilia

Many people are interested in their local history, so it's no wonder collectors often focus their collections on items from their own town or city. They may hone in on one type of collectible, such as postcards, or they may seek out a wide variety of items that have a connection to their area.

I'll focus on Worcester related items in this column given its large size and significant history, and the fact that much of my collection features items that were produced and sold in the city.

If you are just starting out collecting, you may want to start with postcards and other smaller items, which you can purchase for 25 cents and up. Vintage matchbook covers advertising Blue Moon Stockings being sold at Vera Green Inc. in Worcester and TO Flynn's Restaurant each recently sold in the \$2 range. A Victorian trade card for Palace Organs manufactured by Loring and Blake Organ Company of Worcester went for \$4. A small German made souvenir porcelain pitcher of Worcester City Hall sold for \$10 in 2019.

If you're looking to go bigger, many pieces of local memorabilia could bring you a windfall. It should be noted, however, that many top selling items

are cross collectibles. This is when items have characteristics that appeal to multiple collectors. For example, Oilzum motor oil was manufactured in Worcester, so there are local people who collect Oilzum advertising. There are also petroliana (gas station and petroleum industry) collectors interested in Oilzum, making their products even more desirable.

As for earlier local history, Isaiah Thomas was an anti-British journalist and publisher from Worcester who published the Worcester Spy. The Spy and Thomas' close connections with other patriots helped fuel the American Revolution. Many of his books can sell in the hundreds, but one book brought a huge figure at auction. A Narrative of the Excursion and Ravages of the King's Troops under the Command of General Gage, on the Nineteenth of April 1775 sold for \$19,550 in 2010.

Almost 200 years after Thomas' book was printed, A 1964 "Caravan of Record Stars" poster advertised a concert featuring 15 performers at the Worcester Memorial Auditorium. The Supremes

and the Drifters were two of the headliners. Despite pinholes and over 20 staple holes, it sold for \$9,540.

1930s cone top cans from Worcester's Brockert Ale are popular with breweriana collectors and collectors of local memorabilia. The brewery opened in 1935, according to the Worcester Sun. They sold their first beer on St. Patrick's Day 1936. Oscar Brockert left a year after founding the business, but the company kept selling beer as Brockert until after World War II. It then became the Worcester Brewing Company. Brockert cone top cans can sell in the hundreds to the thousands. A can in pristine condition sold for \$3,000 last year. I'm sure the consignor raised a glass to that.

I'm always looking for Worcester related items for my collection. I am particularly interested in Worcester County sports memorabilia and railroad memorabilia from local railroads.

We continue to pick up items for our major fall multi-estate auction. The sixth session of model trains, die-cast cars, models and other toys is running



now and will end on July 13th. We will also be starting the Beacon Street, Boston online estate auction when the sale of the home is finalized. I'll be appraising items at the Leicester Senior Center as a fundraiser for the Leicester Historical Society on Nov. 5. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

With a little help from my friends

Where would I be without my friends? The answer is nowhere good.

My dad had a lot of friends, and as we approach the anniversary of his death, I'm reminded of all the people who supported him in his final months. Every day, he had 10 to 15 people come to the house to be with him. They came so often that getting alone time with him in his final days was hard. They loved him, and it helped me understand the value of friendship.

It took me a long time to learn the value of friendship.

I am blessed to have a couple of friends who were there for me in my darkest times. They were

there for me even when I had nothing to offer but depression and despair. During those moments, I realized I needed to be a friend to them just as they were to me.

Sometimes you meet a person, and you know instantaneously there is something about them that you like. Is it possible to have friends at first sight? I've never experienced love at first sight, but I have met a couple of people with who it seemed we had an instant bond. It's hard to explain, it doesn't make sense, but it's like you've known them all your life. That feeling wasn't wrong; those people turned out to be lifelong friends.

I used to work as a model doing print and

runway jobs. It's fun work but also very lonely traveling from city to city working with strangers. One time I was doing a runway job for a big client in the Midwest. There were about thirty other models there too. I didn't know any of them. On my first day, I met another model named Bret. Instantly we were friends. Everything he said was hilarious. He wasn't even trying to be funny, but he had me laughing at every word.

We kept in touch and traveled throughout Europe, doing modeling jobs and having the time of our lives.

Through the years, we stayed friends; even when he married and

started a family, we stayed close. There have been long periods when we didn't see or talk to each other, and when we finally got a chance to hang out again, we picked up right where we left off.

When good things happened, he was always there to celebrate. He was there for the bad times too. During the most challenging times in my life, when it seemed like all was lost, Bret was there. He'd buy a plane ticket to fly across the country to listen to me express my heartache. I'd tell him how bad of a situation I was in, and he'd listen without being judgmental.

It reminds me of the Beatles lyrics, "I get by with a little help from my friends."

He's always been quick to forgive me when I was at fault; he's the perfect example of a friend.

While developing the concept for my business, I knew I would need to raise capital to get it started. Who was first in line? Bret. I didn't even want money from him, I was explaining the concept, and he wanted to be a part of it.

How could I ever repay him for his friendship? By being a friend in return. If you have a Bret in your life, go out of your way to nurture that relationship, that kind of friendship doesn't come

along every day.

I know some people don't have a lot of friends, but you can create a friendship at any age. I have become friends with a man almost twice my age; we meet every Saturday and have coffee to talk about the spiritual side of life.

Sometimes you have to be a friend if you want a friend. Choose wisely, and make friends with people who want the best for you and for whom you want the best. Celebrate their good times and be there for them in their hard times, don't judge them for their mistakes. Listen, help out, answer their phone calls, and be empathetic. If you want to be a good friend, be like Bret.



Corona Tools — Courtesy

Use bypass hand pruners on smaller stems of spring flowering shrubs.

Bring your overgrown lilacs, forsythia, mock orange, pieris and other spring flowering shrubs down to size while maintaining their natural beauty and spring floral display.

Prune spring blooming shrubs right after flowering for maximum flowering. These shrubs set their flower buds in summer so pruning at other times of the year reduces or eliminates the spring floral display. Major pruning on these shrubs can also be done in late winter. It's easier to see what needs cutting and the plants respond well to pruning at this time of the year. You'll just eliminate some of the spring flowers.

Summer blooming shrubs like potentilla, beautyberry, and Annabelle-type hydrangeas flower on new growth. Prune these, when needed, in late winter or early spring before growth begins or anytime during the dormant season.

Make sure you have the proper tools and safety equipment before making the first cut. Protect your eyes and hands with safety glasses and gloves. Then make sure your pruning tools are clean and sharp. Using the right pruning tool for the job helps ease muscle strain and fatigue while making proper cuts that close quickly. This will reduce the risk of insects and diseases moving into the plant.

Use bypass pruners to cut small stems that are 1/2-inch diameter or less. These have two sharp blades, like scissors, and make clean cuts that close quickly. Employ a bypass lopper like Corona® Tools' ClassicCUT® SL15167 with soft grips that fit well and will cut limbs up to one and three quarter inches in diameter. Loppers have long handles that give you greater leverage and

GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

extend your reach.

You will need a pruning saw when doing renewal pruning. A short-bladed saw makes it easier to access and cut larger stems to ground level. Look for a saw, like the RazorTOOTH Saw® RS16150, with a pull stroke cutting action and ergonomic handle. It makes fast and easy cuts and minimizes hand fatigue.

Once you have your tools, you are ready to start pruning. Reduce the height and leggy growth on overgrown suckering shrubs over the next three years. This type of renewal pruning is better for the plant and most gardeners find it less stressful for them as well.

Remove one third of the largest and oldest stems to ground level each year for three years with renewal pruning. If your shrub has twelve stems, you will prune four of these back to the ground this year, four more the following year, and remove the last four older stems the third year. By the end of the three years, you have a smaller shrub with leafy stems from ground to tip and flowers at a level you can enjoy.

Start by removing any crossed or dead branches. Disinfect tools with a 70 percent alcohol or disinfectant spray between cuts, if you suspect the plant is suffering from disease. This will help reduce the risk of spread-

ing the disease throughout the plant.

You can stop pruning at this point and continue renewal pruning next year in late winter. If you decide to continue, remove a few more of the older stems to ground level. Taking these stems back to the ground encourages new growth at the base of the plant.

Minimize additional pruning at this point. You can reduce the height on any wayward branches as needed. Make your cut on a slight angle above an outward facing bud or stem. This encourages growth away from the center of the plant, reducing the risk of crossing branches in the future.

Maintain the size and prevent leggy growth with regular pruning in the future. Just remove a few older stems to ground level every year or two. Investing a bit of pruning throughout the life of your plants helps boost their health, beauty, and your enjoyment.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Corona Tools for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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I Can Take the Confusion Out of Medicare!

Deadlines ?

Part A Penalties ?

Part B ?

Part C ?

Part D ?

Turning 65? Retiring? Unhappy with you existing coverage? I can answer your questions, review your options and help you find— and enroll — in a Medicare insurance plan that meets your needs.

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- What's the difference between Medicare Parts A, B, C & D ?
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- Am I eligible for vision, dental, hearing and other benefits?

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GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

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

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website, or by reaching out to our Library Director, Sondra Murphy, at smurphy@cwmmars.org.

Adult Programming

SEED LIBRARY – Spring/Summer 2022
Do you have a green thumb, or are you looking to develop one? We are offering a selection of seeds for anyone to take home and plant! This selection changes weekly! All of the seeds were generously donated by Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds.

FRIENDS BOOK SALE – June 16th-18th All Day
Summer is in the air, you can almost taste it. What goes with summer vacation besides REST, and RELAXATION? READING, of course! Come join us for the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Book Sale, Thursday June 16th through and including Saturday, June 18th. The sale will include a wide range of books: fiction and nonfiction; hardcover and paperbacks; adult and children’s books. The sale will also include CDs and DVDs and an assortment of puzzles. Start your summer off right, come to the Book Sale. All proceeds from the Book Sale directly benefit the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

SEEING HISTORY: MONET’S GARDENS AT GIVERNY – June 23rd at 6:00PM
This beautiful and informative presentation will bring you into the world of Claude Monet’s gardens at Giverny. The place that inspired so many of his masterpieces, from the water lilies to his Japanese bridge, will come alive in this vibrant and fun evening. No registration required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP – June 27th at 6:00PM
The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group will be meeting in person this month! The group meets at 6:30 pm and the meeting will take place in the Library’s Community Room. New members are always welcome! Next month’s book discussion will be on Monday, June 27th. The group will be discussing The Wife Upstairs by Rachel Hawkins. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to ehale@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

TAI CHI WITH SIFU – Fridays between July 1st and August 26th 9:00-10:00AM
Friday mornings through July and August the Gladys E Kelly Public Library will be having a free Tai Chi class! Join Sifu Gary from the Kung Fu and Tai Chi Academy of New England for an hour of focused movement each week to hone your body, mind, and spirit for the day ahead. Classes will be held on the lawn, weather permitting, and students should wear comfortable clothing for movement and sneakers or walking shoes. Students should also bring water or another non-carbonated beverage. No registration required! Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

YOGA WITH JULIE – Moving to Tuesdays at 6:30PM during the summer, Starting July 5th!
Join Julie 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 a centering of the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages and, finally, a rest and relaxation. Classes are

free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Children’s and Young Adult Programming

MAKER MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30PM
Feeling artistic? We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your creativity to the test! Every month we will rotate our craft material, stop in to see what we’re making this month!

BUILD NIGHT – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30PM
Put your creative caps on and come build with LEGOs, magnatiles, or other neat building materials! Materials will change monthly, so don’t miss it! For children of all ages and their caregivers.

SENSORY BIN STORYTIME – Wednesdays in June 10:00-11:00AM
Join us for stories and play time in a new sensory bin each week. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

LASER TAG TEEN KICK OFF – June 23rd 6:00PM
Come celebrate the start of Summer Reading with our Laser Tag kick-off event! This outdoor program is for teens 12-18! Please sign up via the sign-up sheet at the children’s desk upstairs or by emailing rcocx@cwmmars.org. Please fill out the waiver that you can print and have a parent or a guardian sign and bring it into the library or email it to rcocx@cwmmars.org . You have to have the waiver filled out to play laser tag. Link to the waiver will be on the event page on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Randa our Teen Programming Intern through email listed above! Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES – June 27th 10-11AM
Come celebrate the start of Summer Reading with our Animal Adventures kick-off event! This outdoor program will feature live animals of all shapes and sizes! Learn all kinds of facts about how different animals live in a fun and safe (socially distanced) outdoor setting. Program for all ages! No sign-ups required. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

TEEN ANIME NIGHT – July 1st 3:30-5PM
Join the Gladys Kelly Library in a day of anime! Vote to watch your favorite anime, sit back and grab a snack and enjoy!

TEEN PAINT BY NUMBERS – July 5th 4:30-6PM
Come in and pick one of our canvases and paint a master piece! These paint by number canvases will make painting easy and fun!

MUSIC TOGETHER – Wednesdays in July, starting July 6th from 9:30-10AM
Fun, fabulous, uplifting, magical early childhood music class! Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

MESSY SUMMER DAYS – Thursdays until August 18th, starting July 7th from 3:30-4:30PM
Enjoy creating messy art and playing in bins of different messy materials with us outside on the common! Every Thursday in July and August!

PRINCESS PARTY – July 8th 10:30-12PM
Decorate your own crown and join Our Disney princesses as they read and sing. Dress up is encouraged!

TEEN POTTERY: REGISTRATION REQUIRED – July 8th 2:30-3:30PM
Join us with welcoming Pop Up Art School in! They will be bringing the clay for you to build an amazing clay lantern decorated with fun flowers and whimsical animals! Registration required, please call the library at 508-949-3880, or email Randa at rcocx@cwmmars.org to register!

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photo’s, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities and upcoming events.
The Webster Senior Center will be closed on Monday, June 20th in observance of Juneteenth and on Tuesday, June 28th for the town election.
Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal.
NEW HOURS!!! The Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center is closed on Mondays. Open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Walk-ins Are Welcome on Wednesdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule your appointment!
Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class
Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets.

Do you like to play cribbage? We have a weekly cribbage group that meets every Tuesday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!
Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center – come join us for 6-card or 13-card pitch! Six card pitch meets on Mondays and Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm. Want to learn pitch? Please call the senior center at (508) 949-3845. Six card beginners will meet Mondays and Wednesdays at 12:15 pm, thirteen card beginners will meet on Thursdays 12:15 pm. Please call to sign up!
Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm
A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center by appointment only. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.
Come enjoy a movie with your friends at the Senior Center on Thursday, June 23rd at 1:00 pm. We will be showing “Rescued by Ruby” the true story of Rhode Island State Police Cpl. Daniel O’Neil and his canine partner Ruby. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Please sign up at the front desk.
Join the Friends of the Webster Senior Center for a Father’s Day celebration on Monday, June 27th from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Live music, pizza, and refreshments. You must sign up at the front desk of the Senior Center by Tuesday, June 21st.
CRAFTERS WANTED! The Friends of the Webster Senior Center are sponsoring a Craft Fair on Monday, October 17, 2022. We are looking for applicants that are senior residents of Webster or a member of the Webster Senior Center. Come join us for the craft fair and rent a table for only \$10.00! Applications available at the Senior Center. Space is limited so be sure to fill out an application early.

Trip 1: Lake Winnepesaukee Cruise & Castle in the Clouds on Tuesday, August 16th. Trip price of \$149.00 includes transportation, 2-hour Lake Cruise, visit to Castle in the Clouds, luncheon, meal taxes and gratuities. Trip 2: Shades of Buble´, a three man tribute to Michael Buble´ on Tuesday, Sept. 20th. Trip price of \$99.00 includes transportation, show tickets, luncheon, meal taxes and gratuities. Our trips are quickly selling out so don’t wait to reserve your seat! Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.
The Worcester County Sheriff’s Office House Numbering Program will create a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you. (508) 949-3845.
Senior SAFE is a program that supports fire and life safety education for seniors. The Webster Fire Dept. will do a home visit to ensure that you have the correct smoke and CO2 alarms and that they are working properly, at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.
Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests from May 19 to June 11.
A 34-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was issued a summons on May 29 for Disorderly Conduct, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, and Assault on a Family or Household Member. Julia Pagan-Morales, age 55, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for Resisting Arrest, Disorderly Conduct, and Assault.
A 37-year-old male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on May 30 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member, Vandalization of Property, and Nighttime Felony Breaking & Entering.
Kelsey L. Remillard, age 24, of Webster was arrested on May 31 in connection with multiple warrants.
Arthur Tolman Christian, age 36, of Dudley was arrested on June 2 for Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, multiple counts of drug possession, and in connection with a warrant. Destiny J. Spencer, age 37, of Milford was arrested during the same incident in connection with multiple warrants, multiple counts of drug possession with intent to distribute, and Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law.
Pria E. Nesta, age 29, of Webster was arrested on June 2 in connection with a warrant.
Ashley Lynn Mallas, age 33, of Danielson, Conn. was arrested on June 2 in connection with a warrant.
Eric Albin, age 48, of Webster was arrested on June 3 for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender.
A 48-year-old male from Oxford was issued a summons on June 4 for Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, Possession of a Class B Drug, and Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute. Justin M. Bell, age 38, of Oxford was arrested during the same incident for Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, Possession of a Class B Drug, and Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute.
Yasser Ismail Gaber, age 32, of Webster was arrested on June 3 in connection with multiple warrants.
Joseph Patrick Murphy, age 26, of N. Grosvenordale, Conn. was arrested on June 5 for Operating Under the Influence and Speeding at a Rate of Speed Exceeding the Posted Limit.
A 42-year-old female from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on June 8 for Assault & Battery.
Hector J. Alicea-Romero, age 35, of Worcester was arrested on June 9 in connection with a warrant.
A 22-year-old male from Pawtucket, R.I. was issued a summons on June 10 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle. Kalina S. Caban Robinson, age 30, of Providence, R.I. was arrested during the same incident in connection with a warrant.
Joseph Pharly, age 28, of Webster was arrested on June 10 for Operating a Motor Vehicle with a Suspended License.
David Lee Gatrey, age 38, of Worcester was arrested on June 11 in connection with a warrant.

German born pastor to serve two congregations in Webster and Oxford

WEBSTER — An installation and celebration of new ministry for Pastor Michael Bastian will take place on June 22 at 7 p.m. at the Church of the Reconciliation, 21 North Main St. in Webster. Pastor Bastian will be installed as Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Oxford, and as Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Reconciliation. Bishop James Hazelwood of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, New England Synod, and Bishop Doug Fisher of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts will officiate at the long-awaited installation and celebration. Local clergy have been invited to share in this installation service.

Pastor Bastian has been serving the two local churches since mid-October 2020, ministering faithfully throughout the CoVid pandemic.

“Church better together, that’s what I signed up for,” Pastor Michael, as he prefers to be called, states. “Zion Lutheran and Church of the Reconciliation are two small parishes that called one pastor to be church better together, to explore what that means, and



Pastor Michael Bastian

to live into that so we not only survive, but thrive together.”
Born in Germany and having served congregations in both Germany and the United States, Pastor Michael has 32 years of ministry experience in different settings. This background has expanded his horizons and given him a broad perspective about people, life, and its joys and struggles.

“People are people, whether that’s in Germany or the U.S. We are only human. We have our gifts and we have our struggles. Sometimes, we really slip up. And, our Lord Jesus pulls us up and gets us back on our feet.

When I read the Gospel, I read that Jesus didn’t ask people to pass tests before speaking to them or welcoming them. He loved them first and he loved them completely,” he said.
Since 2003, the ELCA and the Episcopal church of America have been closely working together under the “Called to Common Mission” agreement. This includes also the sharing and calling of pastors from one of these two church bodies to serve Lutheran or Episcopal congregations. Although this relationship is not a merger of the two denominations, there is a relationship of full communion which maintains respect for one another’s traditions. Both Zion Lutheran Church and the Church of the Reconciliation have been enjoying the exploration of the gifts of each congregation and determining how to share them in the community and the world at large.
A dinner in honor of Pastor Michael to celebrate his new ministry will be held on July 10 at Point Breeze Restaurant.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Daniel J. Garney to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Envoy Mortgage, dated December 20, 2013 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51878, Page 150 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, its successors and assigns to Envoy Mortgage dated May 15, 2018 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 58870, Page 300, and Assignment from Envoy Mortgage to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper dated March 16, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 62080, Page 96, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 4 Millbury Road, Oxford, MA 01540 will be sold at a Public Auction at 10:00 AM on July 5, 2022, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: PARCEL ONE: A certain tract or parcel of land situated in the central part of Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, and bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly corner thereof at a steel axel driven in the ground on the easterly line of Millbury Road and also being the southwesterly corner of land now or formerly of Nettie F. Chaffee. THENCE by land now or formerly of said Chaffee, North 87 degrees 49 minutes East, one hundred and thirty-five and ninety-five hundredths (135.95) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land now or formerly of Remillard; THENCE by land now or formerly of said Remillard South 15 degrees 48 minutes West, ninety-three and eight tenths (93.8) feet to an iron rod driven in the ground; THENCE by land now or formerly of said Remillard North 86 degrees 40 minutes West, one hundred and thirty-five and ninety-five hundredths (135.95) feet to an iron rod driven in the ground on the easterly line of aforesaid Millbury Road; THENCE by the easterly line of said road, North 18 degrees 20 minutes East, eight-one (81.0) feet to the point of beginning. Containing eleven thousand three hundred and eighty - two (11,382) square feet, more or less. PARCEL TWO: The land in Oxford, Massachusetts, with building thereon, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southwesterly corner of the tract to be conveyed at a point on the easterly line of Millbury Road and also being the northwesterly corner of land of the grantors; THENCE by the easterly line of said Road, North 18 degrees 20' East, 50.0 feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land now or formerly of the heirs of the Estate of H.V Chaffee; THENCE by said land of the heirs of the Estate of H.V. Chaffee, North 88 degrees 50' East, 265.7 feet to a stake and South 9 degrees 48' West, 53.0 feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land now or formerly of Charles F. Heeps; THENCE by land of said Heeps, North 87 degrees 28' West, 62.5 feet to a stake at land now or formerly of Phoebe Remillard; THENCE by land of said Remillard, South 88 degrees 05' West, 82.0 feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land of the grantors; THENCE by land of the grantors, South 87 degrees 49' West, 135.9 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 13,228 square feet or .3037 acres. BEING the same premised conveyed to Daniel J. Garney by deed recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds at Book 51878, Page 146. For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51878, Page 146. The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession. Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign

written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale. Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Garney, Daniel J., 19-036356 June 10, 2022 June 17, 2022 June 24, 2022

(SEAL) COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket Number: 22 SM 001490 ORDER OF NOTICE

To: Melissa Glidden and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 10 Elm Street, given by Melissa Glidden to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC, dated May 25, 2021, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65266, Page 278 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 July 18, 2022, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on June 1, 2022. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 21665 June 17, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO21P3829GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 In the matter of: Karen Johnson Of: Dudley, MA RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital of Worcester, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Karen Johnson is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 06/28/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to

make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 01, 2022 Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate June 17, 2022

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of Massachusetts Worcester County Juvenile Court Department 279 West Main Street Dudley, MA 01571 Docket No.21CP0125DU CARE AND PROTECTION, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, TO: Steven Chernisky and/or father of Emil G. Chernisky: A petition has been presented to this court by DCF (Whitinsville), seeking, as to the following child, Emil G. Chernisky, that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person(s) named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: : 08/15/2022 at 09:30 AM Pre Trial conference (CR/CV) You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you. If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter with a trial on the merits of the petition and an adjudication of this matter.

For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at 508-949-3070. WITNESS: Hon. Carol A. Erskine, FIRST JUSTICE, Brendan J. Moran, Acting Clerk-Magistrate, DATE ISSUED: 02/28/2022 June 17, 2022 June 24, 2022 July 1, 2022

A.C. 92A Commonwealth of Massachusetts 22E0035PP Worcester, ss. Probate Court

To Matthew Bent of Fort Meyers Beach in the State of Florida and to all persons interested. A petition has been presented to said Court by Margaret A. Bent of Mashpee in the County of Barnstable representing that she hold as tenant in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in Northbridge in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows: EXHIBIT "A" 59-61 Upton Street, Northbridge, MA A certain parcel of land, together with the buildings thereon, and all of the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in the Rockdale section of said Northbridge on the northerly side of Upton Street, being shown as Lot #24 on "Plan of Subdivision of a portion of the Dwellings & Land of the Paul Whitin Manufacturing Co. at Rockdale in Northbridge, MA" dated November 30, 1935, made by William I. Thompson, C.E., recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 89, Plan 2, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the most southerly corner of the premises in the center line of Upton Street at Lot #22 as shown on said plan; THENCE North 34° 32' West 100 feet by land now or formerly of the Paul Whitin Manufacturing Company to a corner; THENCE North 55° 28' East 85 feet by land now or formerly of said Paul Whitin Manufacturing Company to Lot #25 as shown on said plan; THENCE South 34° 32' East 100 feet by said lot #25 to the center line of said Upton Street; THENCE South 55° 28' West 85 feet by said center line of Upton Street to the point of beginning. Containing 8,500 square feet of land according to said plan. Subject to and with the benefit of any and all existing rights, reservations, restrictions, easements and encumbrances still in force and effect. Setting forth that her desires that – all – the aforementioned described part – of said land may be sold in private sale for not less than \$310,000.00 dollars, and praying that partition may be made of

all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which th Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twelfth day of July 2022 the return date of this citation. Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this first day of June 2022. Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate June 17, 2022 June 24, 2022 July 1, 2022

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. WO22C0130CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME In the matter of: Joseph Russo

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Joseph Russo of East Douglas MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Dean Paul Russo

IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/28/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: May 26, 2022 Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate

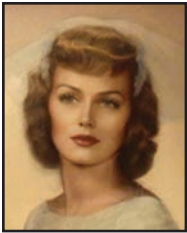
Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO22P1917EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION James Joseph Thompson Date of Death: 04/23/2022

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Michelle L. Thompson of Dudley MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that Michelle L. Thompson 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 06/28/2022. 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: June 01, 2022 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate June 17, 2022

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Ruth McKinstry “Betty”, 90



OXFORD - Elizabeth Ruth McKinstry “Betty”, 90, died Thursday, May 26, 2022. She passed away peacefully in her home surrounded by family. She is survived by three children, Sherry A. Moskowitz (Blackmore) and her husband Russell of W. Brookfield, MA, her son Paul M. Turner and his wife Linda (Sanderski) of Webster, MA, her daughter Karla E. Turner of Oxford, MA. Her grandchildren Jeffery Blackmore and his wife Donna of Spencer, MA, Seth Blackmore of W. Brookfield, MA, and Alysia Turner of Oxford, MA. She also leaves behind 4 great grandchildren and 6 great great grandchildren. Along with many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was Predeceased by her father Myron C. McKinstry, her mother Ruth B. McKinstry (Buffum) and her sister Marylyn B. Woodburn (McKinstry).

She was born in Dudley, MA and lived most of her life in Oxford, MA. She attended Keene State Teachers College in New Hampshire. She worked many years with her father in the family business of McKinstry Artesian Wells, Inc. and later on worked at Old Sturbridge Village until retirement. Elizabeth enjoyed many outdoor activities. Some of her favorites were gardening, swimming, hiking and skiing. She was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Oxford, MA. After cremation a graveside service will be held at West Ridge Cemetery, Charlton, MA on June 25, 2022 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice. The family wishes to thank Beacon Hospice of Leominster, MA for their compassionate care. Robert J. Miller Funeral Home & Lake Chapel are assisting the family with arrangements.

Gerald Pehoviak, 83



Gerald Pehoviak, 83, of Amston, passed away on Friday, June 10, 2022, at Marlborough Health & Rehab in Marlborough. Born December 20, 1938, in Webster, MA; he was the son of the late Howard and Stasia “Sally” Pehoviak. For over 40 years he worked at Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford as a Systems Analyst, during his time there he met his future wife, Janice Patterson. Gerald later went on to work for Computer Science Corporation and worked as a consultant from home. He was an avid reader and in his spare time loved to watch his Boston sports teams, the Celtics, Boston Red Sox and the New England Patriots. During the winter months, he and Janice would travel to Stuart Florida to ride out the cold in comfort. He will be forever loved and remembered by his wife Janice Pehoviak; daughter Laurie and

husband Dennis Doherty, son Chris and wife Heike Pehoviak, stepdaughter Cindy Call and stepson Vincent Jr. and wife Karen Patterson; sister Elaine Jean from Dudley, MA; grandchildren Matthew and wife Ashley, Cole, Kai and wife Victoria, Jan, Niels, Sr. and Niels, Jr., Lars, David and wife Serena, Joshua and wife Sarah, Daniel, Victoria and husband Andy; great granddaughters Ava and Getta, Amelia, Noah and Alice; niece and nephew Stephen and wife Susan Jean, and Andrea and husband Bob Krensky; and numerous other extended family and friends. Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, from 3-5 PM at the Aurora-McCarthy Funeral Home 167, Old Hartford Rd, Colchester, CT 06415, followed by a chapel service at 5 PM. In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial donations be made to a charity of one's choice. For online condolences, please visit www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com

Joy M. Freeman 52



Woodstock, CT- Joy M. Freeman age 52 passed away Thursday, June 2, 2022 at St. Francis Hospital, Hartford, CT. She leaves her father Arthur J. Freeman of Pomfret Center, CT. She was born in Putnam, CT daughter of Arthur J. Freeman and the late Natalie A. (Racine) Freeman and lived in the area most of her life. Joy was a registered nurse and worked in the health field specializing as a

psych nurse. Joy was a graduate of Woodstock Academy; she earned her Bachelor's from Anna Maria College and her Master's in Psychology from the University of Connecticut. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am on Friday June 17, 2022 in St. Joseph's Church, 16 Main Street North Grosvenordale, CT. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Hazel A. Buchka



Hazel A. Buchka of Webster, MA passed away as a result of injuries sustained when she was struck by a motor vehicle. She was a loving and compassionate woman who enjoyed her family of twelve siblings and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, and friends. Hazel lived a diverse and full life. She was a Bartlett High School Class of 1951 graduate and a member of the National Honor Society. She was a graduate of the Commonwealth Nursing Program and served professionally as a Licensed Practical Nurse at Hubbard Regional Hospital and Notre Dame Nursing Home. In addition, she worked as a private nurse for several years. Hazel was a devout Catholic, entering the convent and serving as a Nun for several years. Her faith was a guiding principle throughout her life. She was an adventurous woman who loved travel, sports, and opera. Her most beloved home companions were her

many cats. Hazel was a very engaged individual, long on recollection and always able to carry on a conversation on a variety of subjects. Hazel is survived by her sister Dorothy (Dolly) Sosnowski of Dudley, MA and sister-in-law Mary (Pappas) Baxter of Charlton, MA. Hazel was born on October 2, 1931 to her parents Stathis and Stella (Matera) Buchka, immigrants of Albania. She was pre-deceased by brothers Anest “Clark” Buchka, Tom Baxter, Michael Buchka, Vasil (Bill) Buchka, Leon (Sonny) Buchka and sisters Olga Buchka, Martha Kenneway, Julia DiBonaventura, Shirley Jolicoeur and Alice Barry. A funeral mass will be held at 10am on Tuesday June 28, 2022 at Saint Louis Church, 15 Lake Street, Webster, Ma. Burial will follow at Mount Zion Cemetery in Webster MA. Donations, in Hazel's name, are requested to be made to: Community Cat Connection, Webster, MA. The Robert J. Miller Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

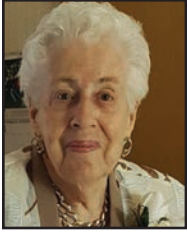
Lisa Michelle Murray, 43



OXFORD - Lisa Michelle Murray, 43, of Webster and formerly of Oxford, died suddenly on Tuesday, June 7, 2022. She is survived by her son, Jayce Neal Murray; her father, David Murray and his wife Pamela of Oxford; her mother, Charlotte (Primeau) Pelkey of Webster; her brother, Craig Murray and his wife Nicole of Oxford; and many aunts,

uncles, and cousins. She was predeceased by her brother, Neal James Murray. Calling hours were Wednesday, June 15, 2022, from 5-7 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. A prayer service was held on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at the conclusion of calling hours. Burial will be private at a later date at North Cemetery in Oxford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, 1355 Peachtree Street N.E., Suite 600, Atlanta, GA 30309.

E. Pearl Jezierski, 95



E. Pearl (Gauthier) Jezierski, 95, died June 2, 2022. She is survived by her husband of 72 years, Leon P. Jezierski, five sons, Leon P. Jr. and his wife Pamela of Knightdale, NC, John and his wife Juliet, David and his wife Lisa, Daniel and his wife Maria, Alan and his wife Connie, all of Thompson, CT. 10 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was the daughter of the late Eva (Dragon) and Honore Gauthier. Two sisters, Claire Laprise and

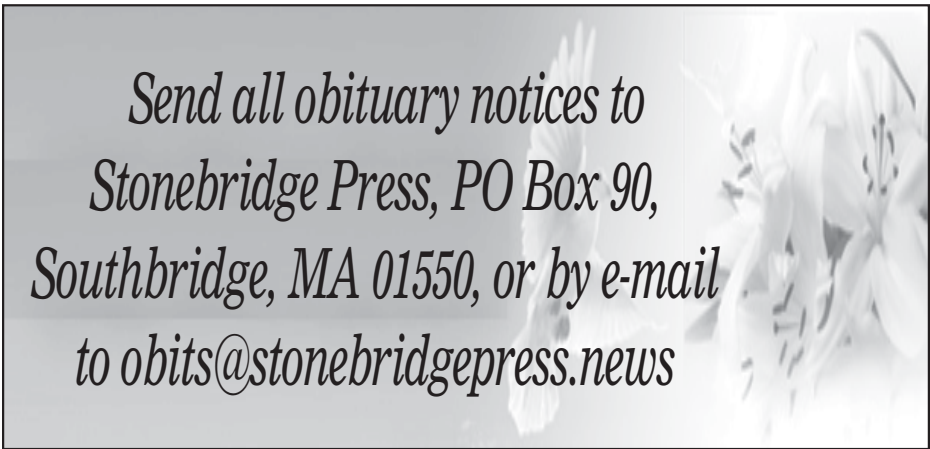
Jeannette Worrick predeceased her. Pearl spent her entire life devoted to her Family and she will be greatly missed. A special thank you to the Staff at Pierce Memorial Baptist Home and to Day Kimball Hospice Care. She was a member of St. Louis Church. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Louis Church, Webster on Monday, June 20, 2022 at 11:00am. Her family will be available to receive friends and relatives at the church prior to mass beginning at 10 am. Burial will follow at St. Joseph Garden of Peace. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice. Online guest book at www.bartelfuneralhome.com



OXFORD - Melissa L. (Despin) Saad, 51, of Newton Avenue, died peacefully on Saturday, June 11, 2022, in her home. She is survived by three children, Ashley M. Saad and her husband Richard Lucier of Oxford, Courtney S. Tomlin and her husband Trevor Tomlin of Austin, TX, and Joshua C. White of Oxford; four sisters, Lena L. Deter of Tennessee, Donna M. Nalewajk of Thompson, CT, Debra J. Light of Thompson, CT, and Diane A. Kenney of Florida; a brother Stephen F. Despin, Sr. of Florida; six grandchildren, Elizabeth, Christopher, Gabriella, Chase, Viktorya, and Gavin; her Goddaughter, Alyssa Courtemanche of Virginia; her best friend and caregiver, Gloria M. Perron of Oxford; and many nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by her sister, Denise A. Rurka who died in 2020; and her former husband, Richard J. Saad, Jr. who died in 2013. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Edgar S. and Anita

B.C. (Deschenes) Despin, and was a life-long resident of Oxford. She graduated from Oxford High School in 1988 and later attended the Salter School. Ms. Saad worked for AdCare in Worcester for 19 years. She enjoyed shopping, trips to the casino, had a green thumb for gardening, and was skilled in crafts. Melissa was a very caring person who helped to raise nephews, nieces, cousins, and many children throughout her life. Her door was always open and her home a frequent gathering place for family and friends. Most important in her life was her family. Memorial calling hours are Sunday, June 26, 2022, from 1:00-4:30 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main Street, Oxford. A prayer service will be held at 4:30 p.m. at the conclusion of the calling hours, followed by a celebration of Melissa's life. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3 Speen St., Suite 250, Framingham, MA 01701, or to H.M.E.A. Autism Resource Central, 712 Plantation St., Worcester, MA 01605.

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



GROUP

continued from page A1

permanent and built correctly. That working group would then report to the Planning Board with recommendations for things that would be modified. At that point the Planning Board can hold a public hearing to modify those plans, in which case the modifications as voted by the Board would be what needs to be completed. That would give us a new cost estimate which would then be reviewed by the homeowners,” said Scanlon. The members of that working group will be the Highway Superintendent, Town Administrator, Scanlon himself, and two Planning Board members. The meetings wouldn't be public, but the details provided to the Planning Board would be discussed in public meetings. The larger overarching goal is to also maintain transparency in terms of cost and expectations. One resident from the Tobin Farms subdivision, Charles Cormier, spoke during the meeting stating that trans-

parency and clarity were most important for the residents who will inevitably have to pay the bill if they approve the work. “I think there should be a clarification of the process from this point from the Planning Board and the recommendations and the estimate to what goes to the town meeting and then what actually happens after that. I think there's a misunderstanding the \$490,000 for Tobin Drive was the final number,” Cormier said. “There's not a lot of understanding on that process and I think that's one of the reasons why the article didn't pass at the town meeting, understanding it's 'borrow up to' and then there's steps that take place after that.” The Planning Board stressed that transparency is their goal, and they hope that the working group will provide the answers everyone is looking for to help these project proceed. They also noted that while previous discussions took place close to the annual town meeting, the working group has a longer deadline as the project won't be addressed again at town meeting until the fall.



Courtesy

DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB DIAPER DRIVE A SUCCESS

The Webster Dudley Food Share received more than \$685 in diapers and infant need items from the DWC “Diaper Drive.” Member and public donations were accepted on the porch of Empire Travel throughout the month of May. DWC membership of nearly 70 members from Dudley, Webster, Charlton, Southbridge and other surrounding communities is committed to caring about and wanting to contribute to the betterment of our communities! A big thank you to all who helped make this May '22 drive a big success! Pictured, left to right: Andrea Kane, DWC President, Maryanne Fontaine, Empire Travel & DWC member, and Kathy L'Heureux, Director of Giving Projects.


We are rerunning this again as #9 was omitted from last week's run. Please use this one to enter the contest; last week's entries will be considered as well. Thank you.




(From your Smartphone)


To read these codes, download a QR Code Reader from your App Store (these are free), and use the app to scan the codes to be taken to these businesses' website. Identify the businesses below. While you're on these sites, check out what these businesses have to offer!


Send the answers to June at jsima@stonebridgepress.news by June 20 for a chance to win a prize! *Good luck!*


#1


#2


#3


#4


#5


#6


#7


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#10

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#12



CRACK THE CODE
QR CODE CONTEST

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PHONE

ADDRESS

NEWSPAPER you saw this in (circle one):

Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Southbridge News, Webster Times

COMMENTS:

THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR CONTEST!

Seniors celebrate at Sheriff's Senior Picnic

Courtesy



SHREWSBURY — An overflow, maxed out crowd of over 1,200 seniors attended the free Sheriff's Annual Senior Picnic held on Saturday, June 4 at SAC Park in Shrewsbury. Worcester County Sheriff Low Evangelidis was honored to host senior citizens from every corner of Worcester County to the largest senior picnic in New England. The drive through model of the picnic was started to keep seniors safe, and was continued again this year due to its success. The annual Sheriff's Picnic is a highly anticipated event and drew another record crowd from the county's senior community. There were so many submissions this year that admission was capped.

"Our annual senior picnic is always one of my favorite events as Sheriff. The idea is to celebrate together as a community. People have such a wonderful time and I am so appreciative of the efforts from all our volunteers, vendors, and all the seniors who came out this year to make it an exceptional day," Evangelidis said.

The Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association sponsored the picnic which included donations by many local businesses and featured a car wash, BBQ box lunch, raffle prizes, complimentary gift bags, music and entertainment. There were more than 100 volunteers on hand which helped make the event smooth and successful with the high turnout.

Kabala bids farewell to School Committee

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee has bid farewell to one of its longest serving members with Catherine Kabala celebrating her final meeting on June 7. Kabala was first appointed to the Committee in 1984 before winning election in 1985 and remaining on the Committee for a total of 38 years. She would eventually receive the Massachusetts Association of School Committees Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012. Her long tenure has officially come to an end in 2022 as Kabala chose not to seek reelection ending a legacy of commitment to local education. Superintendent Steven Lamarche commended Kabala during the June 7 meeting thanking her for her service to the Dudley community and the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District. "Mrs. Kabala has been a positive, outspoken advocate for doing things the right way in the Dudley-Charlton schools. Mrs. Kabala consistently focused on responsiveness to the community and quality improvement practices within the schools. Her input was very important to the School Committee and the Dudley-Charlton staff over the years. During tough times Mrs. Kabala understood the impact and sacrifices that would have to be made but measured all of the tough decisions by their outcomes and their impact on children and staff," Lamarche said. Kabala herself thanked the School Committee for all their support and offered a tearful farewell saying she felt it was time for her to step down and allow new members to help push the district into the future. "The summer of 1984 was the time to join the School Committee, and the summer of 2022 is the time to leave," said Kabala. "I've worked with 44 School Committee members, eight superintendents, and four finance directors. I always tried to do my best and now is the time for me to go. I want to wish the best for everyone in the district from the students to the teachers, the staff, and my colleagues." Kabala's farewell was capped off by a pause in the School Committee meeting to enjoy some food, drinks, and shared memories. Her successor was to be named during the Dudley annual town election on June 13.

Dudley native recognized on SRU's spring 2022 dean's list

SLIPPERY ROCK, Pa. — Bridget Durward of Dudley has made the dean's list at Slippery Rock University for the spring 2022 semester. The dean's list consists of SRU undergraduate students who earned an adjusted semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher, based on a schedule of at least 12 newly attempted and earned credits. Slippery Rock University, founded in 1889, is a member of Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education. The University is shaped by its normal school heritage and characterized by its commitment to intellectual development, leadership and civic responsibility. SRU provides students with a comprehensive learning experience that intentionally combines academic instruction with enhanced educational and learning opportunities that will help them succeed in their lives, professional careers and be engaged citizens. Today, SRU is a four-year, public, coeducational, comprehensive university offering a broad array of undergraduate and select graduate programs to more than 8,800 students. The University has earned full institutional accreditation through the Middle State Commission on Higher Learning and discipline specific accreditations. Located in the rolling hills of western Pennsylvania, the 660-acre campus is less than an hour north of Pittsburgh, one hour south of Erie, and 45 minutes east of Youngstown, Ohio. Two major highways, I-79 and I-80, intersect with seven miles of the University, conveniently linking it to the entire Commonwealth and its contiguous regions.

Olivia Perry named to Castleton University Dean's List

CASTLETON, Vt. — Olivia Perry of Webster was recently named to the Castleton University Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2021-22 academic year. To qualify for this academic honor, students must maintain full-time status and a semester grade point average of 3.5. About Castleton University Castleton University is small enough to be a community where every student matters, yet large enough to offer more than 75 programs of study for undergraduate and graduate students, 28 varsity sports, and over 50 clubs and organizations. The university stresses experiential learning through internships, community service, and research opportunities provided by more than 400 community partnerships. On July 1, 2023, Castleton University will join together with Northern Vermont University and Vermont Technical College to become Vermont State University, a reimagined higher education institution building on the strong legacies of its founding institutions. Learn more at castleton.edu.

Oxford resident named to Bridgewater State Dean's List

BRIDGEWATER — Danielle Jonson of Oxford has been named to the Dean's List for the spring semester of 2022 at Bridgewater State University. Johnson, a freshman, is pursuing a double major in Elementary Education and Theatre Arts.

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320 South St ~ \$179,900



ON DEPOSIT
DUDLEY: Brick Ranch, 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, Hardwood floors, Garage, Solar.
2 Jaybee Ave ~ \$389,900

BARTLETT
continued from page A1

interest. MSBA will not fund any of that cost.

“Those [selectmen] who even aren’t for the project agree the voters didn’t get enough information to make a good decision” last time, Hinkle added, noting many people haven’t “seen what the building is going through.”

Hinkle said she’s seen it deteriorate throughout her four children’s time at Bartlett, the last two graduating last year. “I don’t want to see anyone go through any further deterioration of the school,” she said. She and the district attribute the problems mostly to age – it opened in 1979 – noting the project got

the maximum number of points on its application (and thus funding) for maintenance. Doing the repairs in phases, she added, “we’re going to be fixing one part while the old problems are going to ruin that new part.”

Opponents, however, argue it doesn’t look that way.

“It is not the right time to deal with this,” Carolyn writes by email. “The time has passed by nine years; now they are in crisis. Hold those accountable and investigate where the maintenance budget went, how they can withhold repairs to be so broken that they can get free money to fix them, and if that in fact is legal.”

On the WRF page, Selectman Earl Gabor noted, in part, “Nine

years ago, the school administration recognized that needed repairs were increasing and that parts were harder to get. They applied to the MSBA for help. Each year they continued making repairs and reapplying to MSBA for help. During these years High School enrollment started to decline as students opted out. At some point I believe that they realized that simply making these necessary renovations alone would not, in and of itself, stop the decline in enrollment.”

In short, the issue of timing is seen from two very different viewpoints. Both sides agree on the fact they face many other costs, including water, sewer and other town projects. For opponents, that’s enough

in light of inflation. For supporters, the repair costs themselves will continue to rise if it’s not done now.

The tax impact of the project is projected to hit household bills in about three years, not immediately. That’s been calculated at \$164.90 per \$100,000 of home value per year, according to the district’s website.

To some opponents, the issue isn’t necessarily the need, but the way the project’s configured now. Susanne Stich emailed to say she wants to see the Town Meeting participants be able to amend the proposal. In her case, she specifically wants to include an alternative school in the high school project, which she described as “a much-needed com-

modity for this town” and “a better choice as far as alleviating the need for additional funds to accommodate transportation needs.”

“In my opinion there should be an alternative to this proposal... for example, cutting back on the frills and fancy trimmings that won’t really impact the students’ education,” she wrote.

To Hinkle, some of those “trimmings” are actually needs, because “the school’s not set up for learning ... a 1970s school can’t physically function to get them ready” for 21st century jobs. She sees renovating it to make space for technical programs as an opportunity to draw other kids to Webster.

“I have so much excitement for what this school

can be,” Hinkle said. “... I want people to stay here, and that means having a productive high school that gives a productive education.”

From a different viewpoint, Stich basically agreed with that point.

“Perhaps it will only take one voice to help this community come up with a solution that is more aligned with the needs of our town’s children and their undeniable right to a quality education,” she wrote.

The June 21 Town Meeting is at 6:30 p.m. in Bartlett’s Auditorium. The June 28 ballot vote will be at Town Hall from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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

AG
continued from page A1

plans for helping support agriculture in Dudley.

“We were trying to do some recommendations. One was to notify the land-owners and to also have the rest of the town departments and the boards and municipal workers to keep us in contact with them with anything that has to deal with farmland, agriculture, farm animals, anything like that. It has to be related to agriculture,” said Lorkiewicz.

The Commission also spoke of the success of its first major event since returning from its pandemic-related hiatus with “Dudley Grows Together” in May. After a year-long pause, the Agriculture Advisory Commission has shown full commitment to its mission of supporting agriculture in Dudley.

ELWELL
continued from page A1

as the only recommended candidate by the Principal Search Committee in its second round of considerations last month. Two previous candidates had been named in April but were not recommended for consideration. The committee unanimously recommended Elwell after reassessing applicants in May.

Elwell was presented to the public and the board on June 8 where Superintendent Steven Lamarche spoke highly of Elwell’s capabilities

ties and desire to build on the success of Shepherd Hill.

“Mr. Elwell was the unanimous choice of the Principal Search Group and after meeting with Mr. Elwell myself I am confident in his leadership and excited that he has accepted the opportunity to lead Shepherd Hill starting July 1,” Lamarche said. “Mr. Elwell has exhibited dedication and loyalty to public education for more than 15 years. He established his professional zeal as a tutor, library assistant, teacher, assistant principal, principal, and director of curriculum. In addition, Mr. Elwell’s references identified him as

a person of sound character, integrity, intelligence, and that he is well-spoken. He is a collaborator who established visibility and voice throughout his leadership in his schools.”

Elwell also addressed the Committee and the public for the first time expressing his excitement for joining the district.

“It’s an honor to be chosen for this position. In any district it’s not about the programs or the buildings, but rather about the people. One of the things that was abundantly clear to me after my first hour in the district was that I felt a connection

to the people, and I felt as if, philosophically, we were on the same page. I definitely felt this was a team I wish to be part of and hopefully can contribute to as well,” said Elwell.

Principal Elwell holds a degree from Bates College, a Masters of Science and Education from University of New England, and is continuing his post graduate work at Harvard in School Management and Leadership. He most recently served as Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment for Westport Community Schools.



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Spencer – Candlewood Estates – Phase 2 builder taking reservations and available for meeting. Generous allowances, NO monthly fees. Open floor plan, FHA/central air by propane, gas fireplace, vaulted ceilings. Master w/ private full BA. 1st fl laundry. Hardwood flooring, granite countertops, full basement for plenty of storage or future living area if needed. **\$385,000**



Spencer – 5 Nottingham Circle – modern style 3 BR, 3.5 BA, waterfront on Thompson Pond. Almost 5000 sq ft of living space! Over 1 acre w/ 100 ft lake frontage. Lower-level in-law. 3 car garage, great area! Perfect place to bring the in-laws! The basement is finished and has a kitchen! Lots of sliders & glass for plenty of natural light! Great area! **\$895,000**

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SPORTS

Panthers' persistence too much for Oxford to overcome in D5 State Tourney



Oxford's Evan Brindisi takes his lead off first base.

Nick Ethier photos



Zak Parmenter of Oxford finishes his swing, which produced an RBI single into right field.



Oxford starter Evan Remington rears back before tossing a pitch to the plate.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — Any moment where Oxford High's varsity baseball team had any semblance of momentum on its side, Pioneer Valley Regional of Northfield found a way to battle through it. And because of the Panthers' persistence, the end result saw No. 12 Pioneer dispatch the fifth ranked Pirates in a Division 5 State Tournament Round of 16 matchup, 10-6, on Thursday, June 9.

With it the Panthers advanced to the Round of 8, where they played host to another local team in No. 13 Sutton High. There, Pioneer won a 10-7 decision to advance to the Final Four. Meanwhile, Oxford finished with a record of 13-10.

"We knew that they were a really good team," Oxford head coach Justin Richards said of Pioneer. "Every mistake we made they capitalized on."

The Panthers opened the game by scoring two runs in the top of the first inning thanks to a pair of Pirate errors. Jared Hubbard first reached on a two-out error and then Jason Quinn's RBI triple plated Hubbard. Ethan Quinn then reached on another error, which scored Jason Quinn.

"You'd rather play with the lead. In the playoffs it doesn't always happen like that, but we battled and fought," said Richards.

Oxford scored single runs in the first (Zak Parmenter RBI single) and second innings (Evan Brindisi RBI triple) to tie the score at 2-2, but they couldn't plate the go-ahead run when they had men on second and third base with two outs in the third.

Pioneer, meanwhile, was dealt with the same second-and-third, two-out situation in the fourth frame and they took advantage. Peter Loud, batting from the ninth spot in the lineup, went the other way for a two-RBI single into right field. The Panthers then exploded for five more runs in the fifth inning to balloon the lead to 9-2. Ethan Quinn hit a single that scored two runs, and then Ian Simpson and Loud drew bases loaded walks. Braeden Tsipenyuk followed with a sacrifice fly. The inning also featured another Oxford error early in the frame.

"We made too many errors and the errors they capitalized on, and we just left way too many guys in scoring position," said Richards, as the Pirates finished with 12 runners stranded on base.

Oxford did mount a comeback bid in the bottom of the fifth, though, when they scored three times to cut the deficit down to 9-5. Antoine Lacourt (2-for-5) roped an RBI double, Parmenter (3-for-3, walk) scored on a wild pitch and Jeffrey Guzman beat out an infield single for an RBI.

Pioneer made it 10-5 in the sixth thanks to a Hugh Cyhowski RBI single, and after the Pirates went scoreless in the home half of the frame, they only had the seventh inning to keep their season alive.

There, Guzman drew a two-out walk and Brindisi (2-for-4, walk) singled to put two runners on. Evan Remington (4-for-5) followed with an RBI single, but Lacourt's strikeout ended the contest.

"It was a tough draw for us," Richards said of playing a one-loss Pioneer team (20-1). "They were just better than us today. [Pioneer] is as good as any team that we've played this year."

To its credit, Oxford left everything they had out on the field. Center fielder Lucas Lambert was playing in his second game back since breaking his hand, which kept him away from the batters' box. And Brindisi was dealing with shoulder and hamstring injuries, which didn't allow him to pitch. Therefore, the Pirates' rotation only included Remington and Connor Fantasia, who both pitched against Pioneer.

"We dealt with tons of adversity all year long and they tried real, real hard. That's a real young team we had with some eighth graders," said Richards, as Brindisi, Lacourt and Cooper Jablonski will be the only seniors departing from the club.

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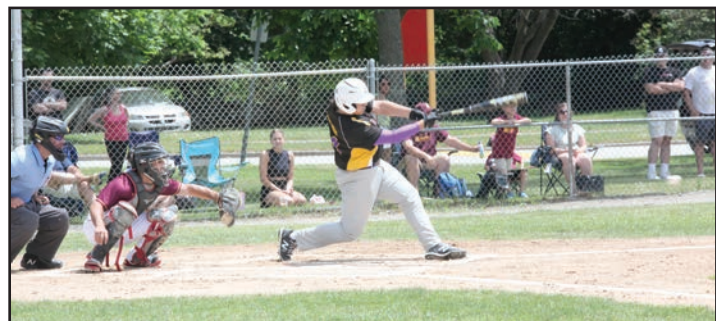
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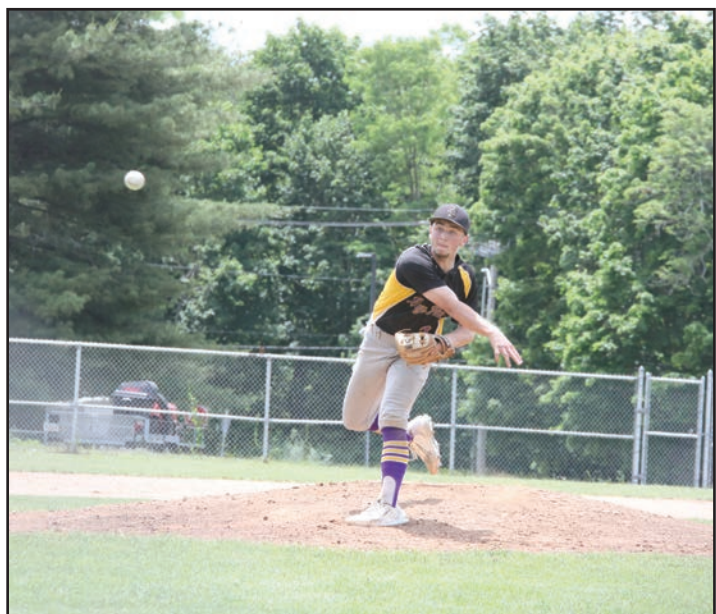
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SPORTS

Minutemen advance to State Final Four after holding off Joseph Case rally



Matt Rousakos of Bay Path follows through on his swing versus Joseph Case.



Bay Path pitcher Zack Fritze tossed a complete game in the Minutemen's victory over Joseph Case.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

SWANSEA — Uncharted territory is where the Bay Path Regional varsity baseball team, the No. 14 seed in the MIAA Division 4 State Tournament, is headed after knocking off No. 3 AMSA (Advanced Math and Science Academy) on Wednesday, June 8, 4-1, in the Round of 16 and then 11th-seeded Joseph Case High, 4-3, on Saturday, June 11, in a Round of 8 matchup.

With the win over Case the 19-5 Minutemen advanced to the Final Four semifinal round, where they faced No. 7 Seekonk High, scheduled to be played on June 14, which came after this publication's press deadline.

The semifinal round is the furthest a Bay Path baseball team has advanced in school history. In 2019 the Minutemen played in the Central Mass. Division 3 Tournament championship game, losing 3-2 to Hudson High.

"I don't know, it hasn't sunk in yet," Bay Path head coach Mark Sansoucy said when asked how it felt to be one of the final four teams still playing in the Division 4 Tournament. "The only thing I'm thinking about is when and where are we playing next."

The Minutemen were able to play that June 14 game against Seekonk after the win over the Cardinals because of an efficient and opportunistic offense — which led 3-0 after two innings and 4-0 after four — and a tremendous pitching performance from Zack Fritze.

The 5-foot-9, 170-pound junior pitched all seven innings, allowing three runs on eight hits while striking out six and walking one. He threw a total of 105 pitches.

"Zack pitched well. We gave them some outs, too, but Zack's a gamer; he's a good one," said Sansoucy, now in his 25th year at the helm at Bay Path. "In the fourth and fifth innings it seemed like he slowed down in his delivery to the plate. He usually works pretty quickly. He seemed to pick his pace back up in the sixth and seventh innings."

From start to finish Fritze said his objective was a singular one.

"I just wanted to come out and throw strikes," he said.

The Bay Path offense got rolling in the second inning when with one out Brandon Martocci drew a walk and then advanced to second base when



Ken Powers photo

The Bay Path Regional varsity baseball team is Final Four bound in the Division 4 State Tournament after defeating Joseph Case High, 4-3, on Saturday, June 11.

Joe Fritze reached on an infield single to third base. Martocci then scored to give the Minutemen a 1-0 lead when Jake Delvalle singled to left field. Joe Fritze moved to second on the play. Joe to third and Delvalle to first.

themselves after we made a mistake or an error.”

Sansoucy said he saw that Case's antics were getting to his players, especially Zack Fritze.

"Their batters were stepping out on him a lot and breaking his rhythm and he was getting pretty agitated because of that," Sansoucy said. "But he fought through it. That's what good players do."

Schramm, the lone Bay Path player who was a member of the 2019 District finalist team, said he knew early on that this team was capable of a long tournament run.

"We have a great group of young guys; they're going to be good for a few years," said Schramm, who is a tri-captain of the team along with Zack Fritze and Martocci. "From the first day of practice I knew this was a group of special kids. This is just a great team. Everybody works hard, everybody's into it. I couldn't be more proud of these kids."



Nick Ethier photo

Bay Path center fielder Brandon Martocci gets underneath a fly ball and records the out.



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(2) Lynnfield 5, (15) Bartlett 0 — The two teams had a combined regular season record of 29-3, so something had to give when the Indians tried to pull the upset and reach the Round of 8. But Bartlett couldn't do so, and their fine spring ended at 15-3. Lynnfield had racked up 11 victories in 5-0 fashion as of press time.

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