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# Blackstone Valley Tribune

*To the veterans among our readers, neighbors, and friends: thank you for serving.*

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©2026, Issue #46

**Friday, November 13, 2026**

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS


## Douglas Fire Department assists in horse rescue







*Timothy Ryan — Courtesy*

DOUGLAS — At approximately 3:45 p.m. last Tuesday, Nov. 2, the Douglas Fire Department responded to a report of a horse stuck in the mud behind 97 Yew St.

Upon arrival, crews located a 25-year-old mare that had stepped off the trail she was being ridden on and become stuck in deep mud, with the mud reaching up to her belly. Recognizing the need for additional specialized equipment and personnel, the District 7 Technical Rescue Team and Blackstone Valley Regional Animal Control were requested to assist.

The rescue presented several challenges, including extremely muddy and unstable terrain surrounding the horse and loss of daylight. Rescuers utilized the Douglas Highway Department's light tower and additional lighting equipment to illuminate the work area. Approximately 25 to 30 sheets of plywood were also needed to create stable footing for rescuers and provide a solid surface onto which the horse could be moved.

After approximately 70 minutes of

Turn To RESCUE *page* A10

SHEPHERD HILL
Festival of Crafts
$1 OFF ADMISSION
Saturday, November 21
9 to 4
Regular Admission: $6
with Coupon: $5
Non-perishable items will be collected for the Charlton Dudley Food Pantry.

## Northbridge completes Phase 1 of high school weatherization with state Green Communities grant

NORTHBRIDGE — The Town of Northbridge recently completed Phase 1 of a comprehensive weatherization project at the High School, marking its latest commitment to reducing municipal energy costs.

Funded through the Green Communities Grant Program, the project focused on updating the school windows to improve building insulation by sealing air leaks, blocking heat transfer, and eliminating drafts. This work was supported by a $25,000 local match appropriated by town residents at the Spring Annual Town Meeting. Future work under Phases 2 and 3 will continue to tighten the school building's envelope by upgrading additional structural elements, including exterior doorways, walls, and roofing system.

The Green Communities Grant Program is a Massachusetts initiative run by the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) that assists cities and towns cut municipal energy costs, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and implement clean energy projects through financial and technical support. To achieve "Green Communities" designation and unlock access to competitive state grant funding, a municipality must meet five distinct criteria. These requirements include adopting local zoning that allows as-of-right siting for renewable energy, establishing an expedited permitting process, and implementing an Energy Reduction Plan designed to reduce total municipal energy use by 20 percent. Additionally, towns must commit to purchasing fuel-efficient vehicles for their municipal fleets whenever practicable and adopt the State's Building Stretch Code for new construction.

Northbridge's Green Community Initiative is managed by the Planning Director in collaboration with the Town Manager,

Turn To GRANT *page* A10

## *Celebrate the holiday spirit at BVCC's Annual Jingle & Mingle event*

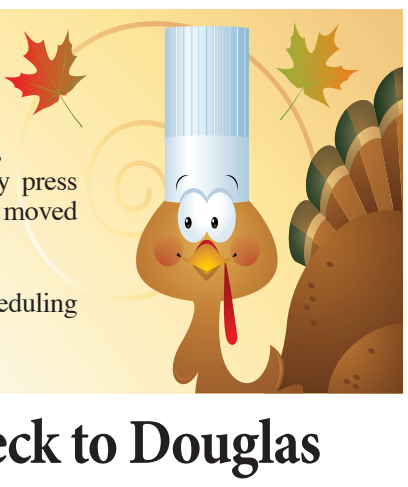
SUTTON — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) is excited to extend an invitation to our annual signature event, Jingle & Mingle on the evening of Dec. 2 at Vaillancourt Folk Art, Manchaug Mills, 9 Main St., Sutton. This holiday networking event, will begin at 5:30 and go until 7:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required, and the community is welcome to enjoy the magic of the holidays with us. We are also proud to announce Vaillancourt Folk Art as our Supporter Sponsor.

Jingle & Mingle is always well attended and guests will enjoy delectable hors d'oeuvres from the culinary students at Grafton Job Corps, taste a variety of seasonal beverages, coffee and hot chocolate from Stay Awhile Coffee, be entertained by the music of Daniel Chauvin, enter to win fabulous prizes, holiday shop throughout the lovely Vaillancourt Folk Art, enjoy great company, and mingle with the community! NEW this year, we're bringing a little extra holiday fun to Jingle & Mingle, with an Ugly Sweater Contest. Whether it's delightfully tacky, outrageously festive, covered in glitter, or sporting the most holiday flair, we want to see it! One lucky participant will take home a prize for the BEST (ugliest) sweater.

"Jingle & Mingle is one of our favorite opportunities to bring the Blackstone Valley business community together to celebrate the holiday season," said Kristen Kearnan, Programs and Events Director of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. "It's about more than networking; it's about building relationships, supporting

Turn To EVENT *page* A10

## Early deadlines for Thanksgiving week



With the offices of the Blackstone Valley Tribune set to be closed Thursday, Nov. 26 in observance of Thanksgiving, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week has been moved up to Thursday, Nov. 18 at 4 p.m.

Submissions can be e-mailed to news@stonebridgepress.news.

The staff of the Tribune thanks our readers for their cooperation with this scheduling change, and wishes one and all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

## UniBank presents sponsorship check to Douglas Common Preservation Society for holiday celebration

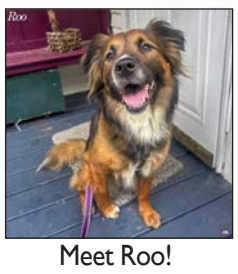
DOUGLAS — On Nov. 5, at the Douglas Common, Karen Yacino, Vice President/Relationship Branch Manager of UniBank's Douglas Branch, along with Peter Barry, Nonprofit Banking Officer from UniBank's Nonprofit Resource Center, presented their $2,000 Platinum Sponsorship Donation to the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. Accepting the donation on behalf of the Douglas Common Preservation Society were Bonnie Lepage, Lynn Paresky, Lin Ives (Bottom of photo), Kathy Richards, and Victoria Peck (Top of Photo, all members of the nonprofit's Board of Directors.

"The Douglas Common Preservation Society Preservation Society would like to thank UniBank for your generous continued support of our volunteer 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization," said Lynn Paresky, the Society's Treasurer. "As a major sponsor each year, you have made it possible for us to undertake meaningful beautification and maintenance projects at the Common, as well as bring much loved traditions to

Turn To UNIBANK *page* A10



PET of the WEEK



BAYPATH
Humane Society of Hopkinton

Meet Roo!

Roo is a stunning, incredibly smart girl who forms strong bonds with the people she trusts. Once you're in her circle, she's affectionate, silly, playful, and loves snuggles, pets, and belly rubs. Her foster family describes her as simply "so easy to love."
Roo is active, food motivated, and loves to learn. She already knows several cues and has been doing great with clicker training and positive reinforcement. She's also a toy fanatic who loves balls, sticks, rope toys, puzzles, and zoomies. And her absolute favorite? Water! Give Roo a kiddie pool and she'll leap right in, chase her toys, and even blow bubbles underwater while fishing for a ball.
Roo is looking for a quiet, adult-only home with an experienced adopter who can give her structure, predictability, and time to build trust. She can be sensitive and reactive to unfamiliar people, dogs, sounds, and movement, so a home with few visitors and continued training will help her thrive.
Roo is a true homebody who is happiest enjoying the comfort and predictability of her own space, rather than joining her family for trips, outings, or travel. She is fully house trained and would love a fenced yard where she can safely run and play. Roo needs to be the only pet in her home, with no dogs or cats.
Roo isn't looking for everyone—she's looking for her people. For someone willing to earn her trust, this special girl has so much love, laughter, and personality to share.

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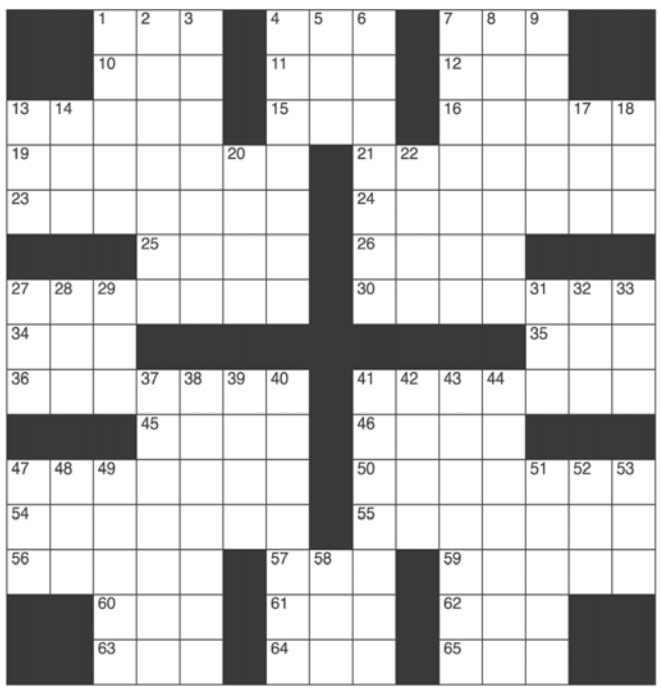
Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

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## CLUES ACROSS

1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

## CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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| B | R | E | A | T | H | S | | E | A | R | L | D | O | M |
| S | E | A | B | E | E | S | | C | A | N | A | S | T | A |
| | | | L | A | M | E | | A | R | A | B | | | |
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| O | C | A | | | | | | | | | | B | A | N |
| U | M | B | R | A | G | E | | C | A | S | C | A | D | E |
| | | | A | G | A | S | | E | L | E | A | | | |
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# Northbridge Senior Center hosts annual Veterans Breakfast




NORTHBRIDGE — The Northbridge community came together to honor and recognize the service and sacrifices of local veterans during the Fifth Annual Veterans Breakfast, held at the Northbridge Senior Center.

The annual event provided an opportunity for community members to gather in appreciation of the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Through this longstanding tradition, Northbridge continues to demonstrate its gratitude for the dedication, courage, and commitment of its veterans and their families.

The program featured a personal keynote address by Wally Smith, U.S. Navy, recognizing the service and dedication of those who have served our country. Harry Berkowitz, U.S. Army, offered a moving tribute with Taps, honoring the service and sacrifices of the men and women of the Armed Forces.

"It is an honor to welcome our veterans to the Northbridge Senior Center for our 5th Annual Veterans Breakfast," said Kelly Bol, Director of the Northbridge Senior Center. "This event is a small but meaningful way for our community to express our heartfelt gratitude to the men and women who have served our country. We are proud to host this annual gathering and provide an opportunity for our veterans to come together, share fellowship, and know how much they mean to our community."

"It is important that we never take for granted the freedoms we enjoy or the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served our country," said State Rep. David Muradian, Jr. "Our veterans deserve our deepest gratitude, not just on Veterans Day, but every day. Events like the Northbridge Senior Center's Veterans Breakfast are a wonderful reminder of the importance of coming together as a community to recognize their service, honor their sacrifices, and let them know how much they are appreciated."

The Veterans Breakfast serves as a meaningful reminder of the importance of recognizing those who have answered the call to serve our country. It also provides an opportunity for veterans to connect with one another and with community members who value their service and contributions.

Amy Cowen, Program and Volunteer Coordinator of the Center, extends her sincere thanks to the Northbridge Police Association, UniBank, Muradian, Jr., Milford Federal Bank, the Friends of Northbridge Elders, and all the volunteers whose time and generosity helped make this special tradition possible. She also extends her heartfelt appreciation to Pat Morrissette, Jean Mistretta, Claire Malkasian, Barry Gallant, and an anonymous donor for their kind-hearted contributions and partnership with the Northbridge Senior Center in making this event such a success!


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Blackstone Valley Tribune
published by
Stonebridge Press

President and Publisher
Frank G. Chilinski
frank@salmonpress.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
508-909-4101
news@stonebridgepress.news

Production Manager
Julie Clarke
508-909-4105
julie@villagernewspapers.com

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# Tribune Almanac

## Real Estate

### BLACKSTONE

None

### DOUGLAS

1,100,000, 36 Monroe St, Windmill Rt, and Van Reed, Barbara C M, to 36 Monroe St Realty LLC.

$789,900, 4 White Ct, Westview LLC, to Riggieri Sr, Nicholas A, and Riggieri, Diana Lisa.

$760,000, 277 Yew St, Charbonnean, Kimberly, to Melnychuk, Matthew J.

$560,000, 171 Yew St, Sargent, Geoffrey, and Sargent, Samantha, to Robbins, Victoria, and Lacava, Steven Paul.

$310,000, 31 S East Main St, Gomez, Linda S, to Haire, Colin H.

### NORTHBRIDGE

$585,000, 42-44 Pine St, Walsh, Lisa, to Martin, Raymond, and Martin, Scott.

$310,000, 60 Lea Ave, Carl, Alan S, to Han Investing LLC.

### UXBRIDGE

$1,495,000, 94 Rawson St, Pugleasa Griscom Ft, and Pugleasa, Joseph, to Hme Estate LLC.

# DCR announces November and December programs at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park

UXBRIDGE — The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has announced a full schedule of recreational hikes, educational programs and special events for November and December at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park and several surrounding state forests.

The programs offer residents opportunities to explore the region's natural landscapes, learn about the Blackstone Valley's industrial history and participate in outdoor activities throughout the late fall and early winter.

All programs are free and open to the public, and advance registration is not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

November recreational hikes

The November hiking schedule includes guided excursions through Douglas State Forest, Upton State Forest and Hopkinton State Park.

On Sunday, Nov. 15, hikers can explore the Rabbit Run Loop at Upton State Forest from 1 to 3 p.m. The approximately two-mile route features rugged forest surfaces and mild inclines. Participants should meet at the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp parking area, where bathrooms are available.

A more challenging excursion is planned for Sunday, Nov. 22, when the Chamberlain Pond Loop hike takes participants through Douglas State Forest from noon to 3 p.m. The approximately 4.5-mile route includes rocky, wet and rugged terrain with moderate inclines. Hikers will gather at the Chamberlain Pond Trail parking area.

The month's final recreational hike, the Long Trail Loop, will take place Sunday, Nov. 29, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Hopkinton State Park. The approximately 3.5-mile route features rugged forest and loose gravel surfaces with moderate inclines. Participants will meet at the upper beach parking lot. Bathrooms and water will be available.

A special Thanksgiving weekend program, the Gratitude After Gravy Hike, is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants will meet at the Rice City Pond parking lot for a three-mile hike over rugged forest terrain with moderate inclines.

December recreational hikes

The December schedule begins Sunday, Dec. 6, with the Skull Rock Lock Loop at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park. The hike will run from 1 to 3 p.m., covering approximately 3.5 miles of rugged forest terrain with mild inclines. Participants should meet at the Skull Rock Lock parking area.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, the Three Quarts Hike at Douglas State Forest will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. The four-mile route includes rocky and rugged forest surfaces with moderate inclines. Hikers will meet at the Bill Anesse Trailhead parking area.

The Healthy Heart Loop at Upton State Forest is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 20, from 1 to 3 p.m. This three-mile hike follows loose gravel surfaces with moderate inclines. Participants will meet at the CCC Camp parking area, where bathrooms are available.

The final December hike, the Cedar Swamp Loop, will take place Sunday, Dec. 27, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Douglas State Forest. The approximately 3.5-mile route includes rocky and loose gravel surfaces with mild inclines. Participants should meet at the Coffeehouse Loop Trailhead parking area.

All recreational hikes are recommended for ages 12 and older. Participants should dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear.

Educational programs explore nature and history

In addition to its recreational hikes, Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park will offer interpretive programs throughout November and December at the River Bend Farm Visitor Center, 287 Oak St., Uxbridge.

Kidleidoscope, a weekly program designed for children ages 3 to 6, combines storytelling with hands-on activities introducing young participants to the natural world. Siblings are welcome.

In November, Kidleidoscope takes place Fridays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and is co-hosted with Beginning Bridges Coordinated Family and Community Engagement. In December, the program will be offered Fridays from 10 to 11 a.m.

The Farm to Factory Exhibit Tour will be offered Saturdays from 10 to 10:30 a.m. throughout both months. The program explores the Blackstone Valley's history, from the period before European settlement through agricultural development, industrialization and the present day. The tour is appropriate for ages 12 and older.

Additional interpretive programs include:

A Shuttle into the Past Textiles Talk: Saturday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 2 p.m. Participants will explore the process of transforming raw wool into woven textiles. Appropriate for ages 12 and older.

Building the Canal Tour: Saturday, Dec. 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. This guided two-mile walk explores the Blackstone Canal›s historical and cultural significance and its role in the region›s transition from agriculture to industry. Appropriate for ages 12 and older.

Woodlands and Waterways Tour: Saturday, Dec. 19, from 1 to 2 p.m. This one-mile guided walk along the Blackstone Canal focuses on wildlife, watershed conservation and the importance of maintaining clean waterways. Appropriate for ages 6 and older.

The November versions of these programs are scheduled for Nov. 7, Nov. 14 and Nov. 21, respectively, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Upton State Forest program highlights CCC history

Another educational opportunity will take place Saturday, Nov. 28, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Upton State Forest, 205 Westboro Road.

The program, "Becoming Better Stewards: The CCC at Upton State Forest Tour," will introduce participants to the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps, a New Deal-era program that helped develop and improve public lands during the Great Depression.

Visitors will explore the former CCC camp, learn about the work performed by its members and discuss ways to protect natural resources for future generations.

The guided walk covers less than one-quarter mile over a flat, paved surface and is appropriate for ages 12 and older. Participants should meet at the CCC Camp parking area.

First Day Hike welcomes the new year

DCR will also welcome 2027 with its annual First Day Hike at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park on Friday, Jan. 1, from 10 to 11 a.m.

The approximately two-mile hike will follow the historic canal towpath, offering views of the Blackstone River and opportunities to observe signs of winter wildlife along the waterways and surrounding forest.

Following the hike, participants can gather at the River Bend Farm Visitor Center to warm up and enjoy conversation by the fire.

Registration begins at the visitor center at 9 a.m. The hike follows a compact gravel surface without inclines and is appropriate for all ages. Dogs are welcome but must remain on leashes.

Additional information

All programs are subject to change or cancellation due to weather or other conditions. Visitors are encouraged to check for updates before attending.

For additional information, contact Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park at 508-278-7604 or visit https://bit.ly/blstupdates.

Reasonable accommodations are available with advance notice. Requests may be directed to Moneesha Dasgupta at 617-645-0358 or moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov.

# Correction

SUTTON — Due to a typographical error, a senior from Sutton High School who spearheaded the creation of the community garden at Shaw Farm reported on in last week's edition was incorrectly identified as Michael Eteemarna.

The correct spelling of his last name is, in fact, Ettamarna.

The Blackstone Valley Tribune deeply regrets any confusion that may have resulted from this unintentional error.

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## Friday's Child



**Paul**
**Age 1**
**Registration #9291**

Paul is an adorable baby with a sweet, easy-going temperament. He enjoys teething toys and toys that he can spin with his hands. Paul loves sensory bubble timers and listening to nursery rhymes, and music is one of his favorite activities. His favorite songs are from "Super Simple Songs" on YouTube. When Paul likes a song, he will wave his hands around as if he is conducting an orchestra. Paul is easily soothed, enjoys engaging with others, and feels comfortable in new environments. His gentle personality and love of music make him a joy to be around.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/32358211403

**Can I Adopt?**

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

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

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President & Publisher

Brendan Berube
Editor

# OPINION

*Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond*

## Editorial

A smart investment in Northbridge's future

There is something to be said for a town that takes care of what it already owns. New buildings and major construction projects tend to attract attention, but sometimes the most responsible investments are the ones that make existing facilities more efficient, less expensive to operate and better equipped to serve the community for years to come.

Northbridge's recent completion of the first phase of a comprehensive weatherization project at the high school is a good example of that kind of practical thinking.

The project, funded through the state's Green Communities Grant Program, focused on improving the school's windows to reduce drafts, prevent heat loss and strengthen the building's insulation. It may not sound particularly exciting, but anyone who has paid a heating bill during a Massachusetts winter understands the value of keeping warm air inside where it belongs.

For a school building, the benefits extend beyond the utility bill. Classrooms that maintain more consistent temperatures provide a more comfortable environment for students and teachers. Improvements that reduce unnecessary energy consumption also free up municipal resources that might otherwise be spent heating and cooling a building inefficiently.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of this project is the financial picture behind it.

Since earning its Green Communities designation in 2017, Northbridge has invested approximately $160,000 in local funding and secured more than $1.6 million in state grants. That represents roughly $10 in grant funding for every local dollar invested, before considering any savings on energy expenses.

For a community where every budget season brings difficult decisions about schools, public safety, roads and other essential services, that is a return worth recognizing.

It is also worth remembering that this money does not simply appear out of nowhere. The Green Communities program is supported through charges collected on utility bills throughout Massachusetts. Residents and businesses contribute to these programs whether or not their communities participate.

That makes Northbridge's success in obtaining grants particularly important. Local taxpayers are already helping support the statewide system. By meeting the program's requirements and pursuing competitive funding, town officials are ensuring that Northbridge receives a meaningful share of the resources available.

There is a lesson here about the importance of long-term planning. Municipal buildings do not become more efficient on their own. Windows deteriorate, doors develop gaps, insulation becomes inadequate and roofing systems age. Addressing these issues requires careful assessment, coordination among departments and a willingness to make investments today that may not produce their full benefits until years down the road.

The high school project is not finished. Two additional phases are planned, with improvements involving exterior doors, walls and the roofing system. Those future efforts will require continued attention to costs, available funding and the potential savings for taxpayers.

Residents should expect town officials to provide clear information about those costs and measurable results as the work progresses. Grant funding is valuable, but public accountability remains essential, particularly when local matching funds are involved.

Credit is also due to the residents who approved the $25,000 local appropriation at the Spring Annual Town Meeting. Their decision helped make this phase possible and demonstrated an understanding that responsible maintenance is often less expensive than allowing problems to grow.

Northbridge's approach also shows the value of cooperation between municipal government and the school department. Energy efficiency is not exclusively an environmental issue or an educational concern. It is a financial responsibility

Turn To EDITORIAL *page* A5

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Protecting your neighborhood shouldn't require a law degree

To the Editor:

When a development is proposed next to your home in Uxbridge, the first sign is usually a certified letter full of terms like "definitive plan," "Notice of Intent" and "yield plan." By the time most residents understand what is at stake, key decisions may already have been made.

I learned this firsthand. I live on Acorn Drive, next to a proposed subdivision off Chestnut Street, and over the past year I have written to nearly every board involved. What I found is a system that is hard for ordinary residents to follow, and one that does not always hold itself to the standards it sets for them.

A single subdivision needs sign-off from half a dozen boards, each with narrow authority. When I raised drinking water concerns at a Planning Board hearing, I was told water belongs to the Board of Health. Technically correct. But what neighbors care about most (water, safety, wildlife, drainage) falls between boards. No one looks at the whole picture, so residents do it themselves.

They do it alone. The developer has attorneys and engineers. The boards have staff and Town Counsel. Residents have no one. While the hearing was open, neighbors asked town officials, repeatedly and in writing, for a legal opinion on whether the proceedings were lawful. Those requests went unanswered. When our final submissions arrived after the hearing closed, the response was swift: they would not be entered into the record.

Rules should cut both ways. The Planning Board Chair signed a since-withdrawn petition to sell the town land the project's yield plan relied on. In response to a public records request, the Town Clerk reported no conflict-of-interest disclosure on file. Residents are held to every deadline. Boards should be held to the same standard.

Time works against residents, too. Hearings are continued month after month, and attendance thins. Yet the deadlines that matter most do not bend. An abutter generally has 20 days from the date a subdivision decision is filed with the Town Clerk to appeal. The town's notice of the Chestnut Street approval is dated two days after that filing. The clock starts at filing, not when residents are told.

What you can do

Follow every board, not just the one named in your notice.

Put it in writing, and submit it before the hearing closes.

Track every deadline from the date each decision is filed.

What the town should do

One Web page per project listing every board, filing, hearing and decision.

Formal referrals when a concern falls outside a board's authority.

Answer legal questions on the record before votes are taken, not after.

This is not an argument against growth. Uxbridge will grow, and it should. But residents are asked to play by the rules, and they deserve a town that does the same. Protecting your home should not require a law degree.

Matthew Trainor
Uxbridge

### The results are in…

To the Editor:

America has spoken. We have rejected hate, division, corruption, cruelty, lies and greed. We have rejected war. We have rejected MAGA. We have rejected Elon Musk and oligarchs. We have rejected the personification of all that is wrong with humanity — Trump.

We voted for Renee Good and Alex Pretti; we voted for decency and accountability; we voted for healthcare and the environment; we voted for kindness and hope; we voted for our children's future; we voted for democracy. And we voted to see the entirety of the Epstein files.

The fight to establish true democracy has just begun. There is as much 'to do' as there is 'to undo'. With the inception of Project 2028, our objectives include:

-overturn Citizens United, which allowed corporations and the rich to unduly influence our elections; codify women's right to choose; establish term limits for Supreme Court Justices and expand the court; eliminate the Electoral College; outlaw gerrymandering nationwide; return the 'Fairness Doctrine' to media; implement universal healthcare; increase the Federal minimum wage to $20; cap Congressional salary at 1.5x the median income of their district/state; ban stock trading while a member of Congress; tax mega-churches, billionaires, and unrealized gains used as loan collateral; close tax-avoidance loop-holes; eliminate subsidies for fossil fuel companies; restructure the electoral process to educate voters, and eliminate the billions wasted on false and misleading political ads; eliminate or limit lobbyists and lobbying.

I have a hundred more changes to recommend, but this is a good start.

In case you missed it:

According to a new documentary and report released in October 2026, an estimated $377 billion is linked to alleged corruption and abuses of power in the Trump administration. The report, "Trump, Crypto, and a New Age of Corruption," documents how the President has used his office to enrich himself and his family, while dismantling federal oversight and safeguards that once protected Americans from fraud, scams, and financial exploitation. But Moe says "Trump is for us."

The Trump administration's anti-worker and anti-disability focus—HHS dismantled its Long Covid office in 2025—has created a climate of fear and difficulty around Long Covid accommodations. Covid constitutes the largest mass disabling event in the United States since the Americans with Disabilities Act became law in 1990. Millions of Americans, maybe tens of millions, now live with Long Covid. Many, from farmworkers to white-collar executives, are still in the workforce—some by choice, some paying an unsustainable price to support themselves or their families. Employers have been emboldened to fight their staff on accommodations, despite evidence that they lead to more retention and productivity overall. Academic studies, researchers, and employment attorneys suggest that the costs and challenges of not accommodating Long Covid are rising for both employees and firms.

Re: the wisdom of Jeff Bezos – Uxbridge's Moe – Miss Black Heart, 2026 - is now trying to legitimize the noxious utterings of Jeff Bezos. This is the same guy who says that taxing him more won't help a struggling worker downstream, because…? Yeah, your guess is as good as mine is. Among his various bon mots: "The invention of the plough made everyone richer!" Explain that to one of the serfs laboring in feudal England.

I have a friend who works at Bezos' Amazon, and by all accounts, it is one of the worst places in the universe to work. Forget the tales of drivers having to urinate in their vans, just to meet delivery schedules. The on-site work environment is a veritable 'jungle'. I was in disbelief hearing of the dysfunctional nonsense being imposed as 'management' until I read some of the posts on the worker's internal chat sites. We should heed this misanthrope's 'wisdom?'

Leave it to Moe and her 'most learned friend,' Howie Carr. They say that Democrats, socialists and communists blame others for problems, yet offer no solutions. So what solutions do Moe and Howie offer, other than blaming Democrats for everything? Did I miss something among all the name-calling? More automation and less jobs? Maybe a robot will get to change Moe's diapers while she's poisoning the atmosphere in her old-age home…. oops! Bezos is going to spend billions getting to the moon, instead of helping humans here on earth? Yea, that's the ticket!

I hate to even mention the nonsensical bleatings of Curly, the fool on the hill, but his statement associating Healey's "Freedom to Read" law with "Farenheit 451" book burnings, is astounding dumbfoolery, even for him. Her measure is designed to prevent arbitrary and politically motivated book bans in school and public libraries across Massachusetts, as is happening in Florida and Texas. In those states, the most heavily targeted sections are young adult and general fiction, books dealing with mature themes, war, trauma, racism, or the real-life experiences of marginalized groups – not 'pornography', as the fool wants us to believe. See the difference? Healey's law protects an author's "poetic license". The Stooges can't even read or understand basic English.

Finally, thank you to Harold Davis of Douglas for listing all the reasons that Donald Trump should be in prison, rather than in the White House. But – to quote Bob Dylan — "The times they are a-changing!" Thank you also to the intelligent, informed people of Massachusetts – the smartest state in the union. Maybe Minogue and Deaton can now get jobs aboard the Trump Titanic. Bon voyage.

Rick Bevilacqua
Whitinsville

## *Put your finances in position for 2027*



Financial Focus

**Dennis Antonopoulos**

As 2026 comes to a close, now is a good time to look for opportunities to strengthen your financial plan before the new year. A year-end review can help ensure your financial decisions remain aligned with your long-term goals, identify potential planning opportunities and help you enter 2027 with greater confidence.

Here are several planning opportunities:

Reflect on your progress. Start your review by evaluating how the past year impacted your long-term plan. Consider how any life changes may have affected your goals and update your strategies as necessary.

Consider your tax situation. Work with your financial advisor and tax professional to understand your tax situation and identify year-end opportunities that may benefit you. If you›re 73 or older, be sure to take any required minimum distributions (RMDs) if necessary.

Increase contributions to your savings goals. Consider increasing contributions to your health savings account (HSA), workplace retirement plan or, if you're saving for education, a 529 plan. These accounts can help build financial security and may offer tax advantages. Even small increases today can make a meaningful difference over time.

Maximize your impact. If giving to others is one of your goals, consider charitable giving or annual gifting strategies to help support the people and causes you care about while also providing potential tax benefits. And note that tax rules have changed for charitable donations: with a standard deduction, you can deduct up to $1,000 of cash donations ($2,000 for couples filing jointly) and if you itemize, you can only deduct aggregate donations that exceed 0.5 percent of your adjusted gross income, up to the applicable limit. These donations must be made to a qualified charitable organization.

Monitor your long-term strategy. If you haven›t done so this year, now is as good a time as any to review your portfolio for the year to make sure it is still in line with your goals, time horizon and comfort with risk. If need be, you can rebalance. You might also want to check beneficiaries on your financial accounts, investments and insurance policies, especially if your family or circumstances have changed.

Work with your professionals. Making necessary year-end moves in ways that benefit your situation can feel complicated. Your financial advisor and tax professional can help you identify opportunities and avoid pitfalls.

A few proactive steps before 2027 can help you enter the new year with greater confidence and a clearer understanding of where you stand financially. By reviewing your progress, evaluating tax and savings opportunities and confirming your long-term strategy remains on track, you can start the year focused on what matters most to you.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert St., Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

# The trouble with being a regular

Lanterns Along Main Street

By CHARLES

There's a certain comfort in being a regular somewhere. A diner, a coffee shop, a barbershop, even the little store where you stop for a newspaper or a gallon of milk. After enough visits, the people behind the counter recognize your face, maybe remember your name, and occasionally know what you want before you open your mouth.

That last part can be a blessing or a curse.

I remember walking into a place one morning, fully intending to order something different for breakfast. I was feeling adventurous. Maybe I'd have an omelet instead of my usual eggs and toast. Perhaps even pancakes, although I wasn't quite ready to throw caution completely to the wind.

Before I could sit down, the woman behind the counter spotted me and announced, "The usual?"

Well, what was I supposed to say?

She seemed so pleased with herself for remembering, and I didn't have the heart to disappoint her. So I nodded, sat down and ate the same breakfast I'd been eating for years.

My brief flirtation with excitement was over before it began.

That's the thing about becoming a regular. Eventually, you develop a reputation, and once you've got one, people expect you to live up to it.

The fellow who always orders his coffee black had better not suddenly ask for cream and sugar. The woman who buys the same lottery ticket every Friday might cause genuine concern if she switches numbers. And heaven help the man who decides to get his hair cut somewhere different after visiting the same barber for 20 years. He'll have some explaining to do.

I suppose there's something old-fashioned about all this, and I mean that in a good way. We live in a world where so much of our business is conducted with machines. We order things from websites, pay bills without speaking to anybody and occasionally find ourselves arguing with automated telephone systems that insist they understand what we're saying.

They don't, by the way.

I've spent enough time shouting "representative!" into a telephone to know that artificial intelligence still has a few things to learn about human patience. That's why I appreciate walking into a familiar place and having an actual person look up and say hello.

It doesn't have to be a grand conversation. A little talk about the weather, a complaint about the price of groceries or a question about how the family is doing will do nicely. And there's usually a fair amount of gentle teasing involved.

If you show up wearing a new jacket, somebody's bound to ask whether you've come into money. If you arrive ten minutes later than usual, they'll want to know if you overslept. And if you happen to bring your wife along, they'll probably tell her something embarrassing about you.

That's the price of membership.

Of course, being a regular also means people notice when you're missing.

Years ago, I knew a fellow who stopped at the same place every morning on his way to work. Same time, same coffee, same seat if it was available. One morning, he didn't show up, and by the next day, somebody had started asking around to make sure he was all right.

Turned out he'd taken a couple of days off and gone fishing. He returned to find that his absence had caused more excitement than his presence ever did. We laughed about it, but I've thought about that story more than once. There's something reassuring about knowing that somewhere in the world, somebody might notice if you don't turn up. Not because you're important or famous or particularly interesting, but because you've become a familiar part of somebody else's day.

I think that's one of the things we sometimes overlook about small-town life. We talk about the big events, the celebrations and the changes taking place around us, but a good deal of what makes a place feel like home happens in those ordinary little encounters.

The cashier who remembers you prefer paper bags. The barber who asks about your wife. The waitress who knows you like your toast dark, even though you've never understood why that's such an unusual request.

None of these things will make the evening news, and that's probably as it should be. Still, they count for something.

As for me, I've decided that the next time somebody asks whether I want the usual, I'm going to surprise them.

I'm going to look them straight in the eye and order something completely different. Maybe pancakes. Although, now that I think about it, the eggs and toast are pretty good. And I wouldn't want anybody worrying that I'd lost my mind.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Buckle your seat belt

To the Editor:

Buckle your seat belt. Move your seat to the full upright position. Be wide awake. Do not despair.

The socialists will soon demonstrate that they lied about being all about "affordability." They cannot wait to raise taxes and abolish freedom.

But first, before "they" bring you "affordable abundance," they must Get Trump. As the Herald said: "Here comes the Democrat Revenge tour and you'll pay for it."

Did you notice that the day after the election, Maura is no longer "talking" about lowering energy costs? She is now all about lowering the cost of health insurance. Sure, right. Wink, wink. Hold onto your wallet.

Remember, as of Nov. 1, your "energy costs" will rise, thanks to Maura's Department of Public Utilities. Her minions approved "new income-based utility discounts" to go into effect right after the election. You will pay for "them". For example, if a household is at the federal poverty level, they will get an 87 percent discount on the National Grid gas bill. Ninety percent discount if they use Unitil.

The rest of us will pay for that discount. Not the state, not Maura, not the state Department of Revenue. Us. It will be added to our bill. One hundred thousand residents with heat pumps will get reduced electricity rates this winter. The rest of us will have higher electric and gas bills. Did you vote for this?

With such steep discounts on their electricity and gas bills, will the "deserving poor" and fraudsters and grifters have incentive to conserve and save the planet? No. But you will! You will lower your thermostat and shut off lights because you will be paying for two households: yours and theirs.

Did you vote for this? No one did. Three million voters in our state did not vote.

I predict. The usual fantasies of the Left will go down in flames spectacularly.

Mamdani promised to lower the cost of housing in New York City. One year later, housing costs in New York shot up spectacularly. Median rent, $3,660. Highest since 2019. So much for Socialism, Communism, and whatever else they call it.

Our state income taxes will be raised to pay for all the free stuff like the new Nature Fund while Friends of Maura will continue to despoil open land for massive solar farms and massive battery storage facilities. Our electricity bills will go up again. Maybe we can have the highest electricity bills in the nation, instead of just being in third place! Let's beat New York and California!

Our nation has gone mad. Does anyone truly believe that Dems will lower prices?

What is wrong with Michigan!? And Texas!? Talafreako says Jesus is non-binary. How the hell does he know? The creepiest looking guy in Texas is ashamed of Christianity. This guy is no Christian. He may believe in God, but so does the Devil, and the Devil is no Christian.

My Learned Friend reminded me that in The Bible, Esau sold his birthright, his inheritance, for a bowl of lentil soup. He suggests that the American people sold their birthright for a bowl of soup. In other words, for short-term greed.

In response to my lamentations, my Learned Friend said that "Satan will rule with full force before Revelation, before Jesus returns." Are we at the beginning of Revelation? Or the middle?

Are you praying? Me too. Keep the faith.

Bev Gudanowski
Uxbridge

### *Letter submission policy*

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.
It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

# Plummer Place

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

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

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

Regular Programs:
NEW Tech Cafe!
2nd Monday of the month
1:30pm-3:00pm
Bring your tech questions — drop-in appointments — no need to sign up in advance
Meditation with Kelly:
Every Thursday morning at 9:30am
Book Club:
3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:30am
Please call Kelly for more information.
Brew Crew:
1st Wednesday of the month at 9:30am
Wednesday, November 4th: Robert Fitzgerald, Northbridge Town Assessor
Please call Amy for more information.
Dull Men's Club:
4th Tuesday of the month at 9:30am
October 27th: David Pickart, Northbridge Conservation Agent
Please call Amy for more information.
Scrabble: Mondays at 9:30am
November 16th
November 30th
December 14th
December 28th
Women's Collective:
2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00am
Please call Amy for more information.
Writing Your Way:
2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm
Please call Lori for more information.

Special Programs and Events
Monday, November 16th
10:00am-11:00am
Author Russ Swallow will be here to discuss his book, The Big Spoon Is For The Soup, a collection of entertaining stories inspired by the unexpected "left turns" that shaped his life. From the Marines and Route 66 to Los Angeles, Las Vegas in the 1960s, Chicago, Beverly Hills, business, travel, relationships, and many surprising adventures, Russ shares the experiences that took him places he never expected to go. More than just a collection of stories, the book sparks memories and conversations, inviting us to reflect on the unexpected turns and stories that have shaped our own lives.

Tuesday, November 17th
1:00pm-2:00pm
Protect Your Family — Estate Planning Seminar with Amy Azza
Attorney Amy Azza will be presenting wills, trusts, health care proxies and durable powers of attorney, the differences between wills and trusts, and how the probate process works in Massachusetts. Free desserts will be provided!

Wednesday, November 18th
10:00am-11:00am
BINGO & Breakfast Bonanza — Free Food, Fun, & Prizes
Join us for a fun and filling morning for our seniors! Enjoy a complimentary Chick-fil-A breakfast sandwich, play a few rounds of bingo, and have a chance to win free Chick-fil-A prizes along the way! Sponsored by State Representative David Muradian, Jr., this is a great opportunity to enjoy good food, friendly competition, and a morning of fun with friends and neighbors. Come hungry, bring your lucky numbers, and get ready to shout BINGO! For Northbridge Residents and space is limited.

Wednesday, November 18th
1:00pm-2:00pm
Plummer Place Pluckers Concert & Sing-Along
Back by popular demand! Please join us for a fun and lively Sing-Along program with Plummer Place's own ukulele group led by Raianne Richards. =

# Douglas Adult Social Center

331 Main St.
(508) 476-2283
Hours of operation: Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to noon

DAILY ACTIVITIES: All our daily activities are free of charge.

Monday: Painting class 9:45am to 11:45am, Balance & Strength Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga 2pm

Tuesday: Walking club 9am, Cribbage 9am, Lunch & Bingo 11:30am, Technology class 1pm (call to make an appt.) Line Dancing 2pm

Wednesday: Balance & strength 10am, Darts 11:30am, Mahjong 12:45pm

Thursday: Walking club 9am, Pitch 9am, Chair Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi 10:45am, Hand and Foot card game 12:30pm

Friday: Balance & strength 10am, Zumba 11:15am

Friday Shopping Trips: Please call 48 hours in advance to schedule your ride. Grocery shopping pick up starts at 9:30.

Price Chopper: 11/13
Walmart: 11/16 & 11/20
Rider's choice: 11/27

Tuesday & Thursday lunch club, please call the Friday before to sign up. Lunch is $4.00 per person. If you would like to attend, we offer free rides to & from the center and are willing to waive the lunch fee is necessary.

November Lunch Menu: Tuesday/Thursday lunch club please call the center the Friday before to sign up!

Tuesday 11/3: Butternut squash soup, ham salad sandwich & cookies

Tuesday 11/10: BBQ chicken, sweet potatoes, green beans & pudding

Thursday 11/12: Taco bar & ice cream sundaes

Tuesday 11/17: Beef stroganoff, egg noodles, corn & ice cream

Tuesday 11/24: Pasta bake, salad, garlic bread & fruit

November: The center will be closed on Wednesday November 11th in observance of Veterans Day. Holiday schedule: Wednesday November 25th: Closing @ 12:00, the center will reopen on Monday November 30th.

Plan ahead for December:

Hearing aid cleanings w/ Darcy: Thursday 12/3 from 10 to 11. Call the center to schedule your appointment.

Annual Gingerbread House Decorating sponsored by the Sunshine Club. Friday December 4th @ 12:30. You have until 11/25 to sign up. Please call or stop in the center to sign up.

The Sunshine Club has a trip planned to see the Greater Milford Ballet perform, The Nutcracker. Sunday December 13th, show time is 2:00. Tickets are $15.00 each and must be paid for when you sign up. You can sign up at the center by 11/20. The center bus will be available for transportation, please request your ride when you buy your ticket.

PLEASE CALL (508) 476-2283 TO SIGN UP FOR PROGRAMS & CLASSES

Check our website for events that may not be listed here

https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center

## EDITORIAL

continued from page A4

shared by everyone who depends on public facilities.

The most effective local government initiatives are often those that accomplish several goals at once. In this case, improving a school building can reduce operating expenses, conserve energy and create a more comfortable learning environment.

Northbridge has made meaningful progress, and there is more work ahead. The challenge now is to maintain that momentum while keeping the public informed about the costs and benefits.

A well-maintained school may never attract the attention of a ribbon-cutting ceremony, but the savings it produces and the students it serves make it an investment worth celebrating.

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# Winners of Third Annual Scarecrow Contest announced



Courtesy

**First Place winners Heather and Kevin Salera are recognized during the Douglas Common Preservation Society's Third Annual Scarecrow Contest awards ceremony.**



**Third Place winners Julie, Daniel, Lydia, Lucy and Lucas Sullivan.**

*BY LYNN PARESKY*
*DOUGLAS COMMON PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC.*

DOUGLAS — The Awards Ceremony for the Third Annual Scarecrow Contest, offered by the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc., took place on Oct. 31 at 1 p.m. at the Douglas Common. Our panel of judges walked around the Common to inspect each of the 43 scarecrows and decided which entries would be awarded First, Second and Third Place – no easy task since there were so many wonderful and creative scarecrows on display. They had made prior evening visits to the Common to see how the scarecrows looked after dark, since many had special lighting effects.

The consensus was that First Place went to Heather and Kevin Salera who made The Wicked Wallum Witch; Second Place went to the Douglas School Bus Drivers who made The Spooky Bus Stop; and Third Place went to Julie, Daniel, Lydia, Lucy and Lucas Sullivan who made ScareCrowaline Doll.

A $250 Amazon Gift Gard, along with a 1st place Ribbon, was presented to the Saleras; a $150 Amazon Gift Card, along with a 2nd Place Ribbon, was presented to the Douglas School Bus Drivers; and a $100 Amazon Gift Card and a 3rd Place Ribbon went to the Sullivans.

Our panel of judges was made up of Senator Ryan Fattman; Tim Bonin, Hal Davis, Ross Smith, Les Stevens (all Douglas Selectmen); Police Chief Nick Miglionico; Fire Chief Kelly Manning; Douglas High School Art Club Director Amy Stand, and Lindsey Sarah Emanuel of Lindsey Sarah Realty.

This contest is one of the newer traditions offered to the community by the Douglas Common Preservation Society and made possible with the support from our Sponsors. Our 3rd Annual Scarecrow Contest Sponsors were: GOLD Sponsors: Ben's Container & Rubbish, FJ Cunningham Plastering & Renovation, GBI, One By One, and UniBank; SILVER Sponsors: Bob Clark's Dog Training & Doggie Day Care, East Douglas Insurance Agency and Jared's Auto, Inc.; BRONZE Sponsors: Graffiti Works, Gregory's Restaurant & Pizzaria, In-Gear, McGoldrick Property Services, LLC and The Sokol Club. Thanks to each of these sponsors for making this event possible.

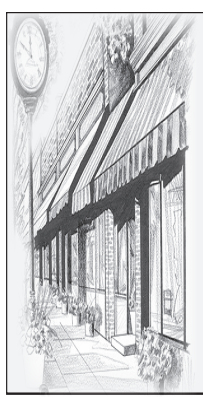
Please follow the activities and events of the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. on our FB page. If you would like to support our nonprofit organization, we are holding our Fall Donation Drive and Thank You Drawings now through November 30 -- so now is the perfect time to offer your support and have your name entered into the drawings for one of 3 prizes – 15 entries for each $25 donated go into your choice of $750 of $2,500 a Week for Life" Scratch Tickets, a One Night Stay at the Williams Inn in Williamstown (Berkshires) or a One-Night Stay at the Bayside Resort Hotel in W. Yarmouth (Cape Cod). Details can be found on our FB page.

It takes a village to make the Douglas Common a source of pride and a location where community can come together to celebrate, so we welcome your support. All 2026 donors will be recognized on the Recognition Banner at the Common in January, including Memorial Donations made this year.



*Timothy Ryan — Courtesy*

**Rep. Dave Muridan and his mother Susan out in Northbridge election day.**



# Community Connection

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence
WE BUY GOLD
Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs
MASTER JJO JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®
409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Got Space?
we do.
Contact Mikaela Today
774-200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



*Timothy Ryan — Courtesy*

**Members of Blackstone-Millville Knights of Columbus do kitchen duty for this past weekend's Rafflemadness at Divine Mercy Parish in Blackstone.**

Crooked Creek Farm
Warren, Massachusetts
Stock up now!
Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!
To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

## Grass Roots Coffeehouse to hold Christmas in New England concert



NORTHBRIDGE — The Grass Roots Coffeehouse announces Christmas in New England on Saturday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

Celebrate the season with Christmas in New England, hosted by the Grass Roots Coffeehouse and the Rockdale Congregational Church. Many in the Christmas in New England cast have been performing concerts for over 20 years, at RCC since 2007. Karen Wilber, Amy Gallatin, Roger Williams, JD Williams, Dave Orlomoski, Krissy & Bob Dick will present a night of traditional, contemporary, and original Christmas and Holiday/Seasonal songs played in an acoustic/bluegrass style.

The concert will take place in sanctuary of the Rockdale Cong. Church, 42 Fowler Rd., Northbridge. Prior to the show, come have a bowl of soup or chili, and at intermission have dessert. Proceeds go to the Church. Also, we'll have our Cookie Walk at intermission. Buy a box for $15 (if you have a box from a prior year only $10) and fill it up with cookies baked by members of the congregation.

Admission to the show is $20 cash at the door. Doors will be open at 6:15 p.m. Seating is at a first come/first serve basis. Visit http://www.christmasinnewengland.net for more info or email aplandbob@aol.com.

# Scouting For Food





*Timothy Ryan — Courtesy*

**Troop 1 of Blackstone gathered to do their part for those in need throughout the local community during their annual Scouting for Food event last week.**












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# LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**Probate and Family Court**
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**
**225 Main Street**
**Worcester, MA 01608**
**Docket No. WO26P3564GD**
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**
**In the matter of:**
**Sherry Dutton**
**Of: Blackstone, MA**
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
**Rachel McKinnies of Bellingham, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Sherry Dutton** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that
**Anita Palmaccio, Esq. of Lancaster, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond..
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.
**You have the right to object to this proceeding**. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **11/24/2026.** 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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 29, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**Probate and Family Court**
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**
**225 Main Street**
**Worcester, MA 01608**
**(508) 831-2200**
**Docket No. WO26P3458EA**
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
**Megan Demers**
**Date of Death: 03/10/2026**
To all interested persons:

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

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/08/2026.**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
**WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**
Date: November 04, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

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

Premises: 56 Driscolls Ln, Whitinsville (Northbridge), MA 01588
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kenneth R. Rusakovich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, and now held by **loanDepot.com, LLC**, said mortgage dated February 14, 2024 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70208, Page 79, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, its successors and assigns to loanDepot.com, LLC by assignment dated February 16, 2026 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 73204, Page 140; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** December 10, 2026 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:
*The land with the buildings thereon, consisting of two parcels located at the southeasterly side of Driscoll's Lane, in the Village of Linwood, in the town of Northbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: P A R C E L 1 : Being the most southerly lot shown on a plan entitled "Land of Laurent L. Gauthier and Margaret R. Gauthier and land of John A. and Allan Malizia, Northbridge, Mass." dated January I9, 1983, by John R. Andrews III, R.L.S. filed with Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith Plan Book 508, Plan 52, bounded and described as follows: BEGINING at the northwesterly corner of the lot hereby described at the southwesterly corner of Lot "B" as shown on said plan; THENCE S. 56° 30" E. by the southwesterly line of said Lot "B", 218.00 feet. more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W, 50.00 feet to the southeasterly comer of the lot hereby described; THENCE N. 56° 30" W., 210.6 feet, more or less, to the southeasterly line of Driscoll's Lane aforesaid as established by the highway taking in 1941 as shown on said plan; THENCE N. 26° 37' E. by said line of Driscoll's Lane, 50.2 feet to the point of beginning. P A R C E L 2 The land adjoining the northerly line of Parcel I located on the southeasterly line of Driscoll's Lane and shown as Parcel B on said plan, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the northwesterly comer of Parcel 1 above described at the southwesterly corner of the Lot hereby described: THENCE: N. 26° 27' E. by said line of Driscoll's Lane, 50.2 feet to land now or formerly of Malizia; THENCE S. 56° 30" E by the southerly line of said Malizia land as shown on said plan, 224.80 feet, more or less, to a point; THENCE S. 34° W., 50 feet to the northeasterly corner of Parcel 1 above described; THENCE N. 56° 30' W, 218.00 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Containing 11,080 square feet, more or less, according to said plan. Meaning and intended to convey the same premises as described by Deed dated 06/17/2022 and recorded on 06/24/2022 in Book 67807 at Page 312 in the Official Records of the Worcester (Southern District) Recording Office.*
The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.
For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated June 17, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67807, Page 312.
TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.
FIVE THOUSAND ($5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.
Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for loanDepot.com, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
November 6, 2026
November 13, 2026
November 20, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**Probate and Family Court**
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**
**225 Main Street**
**Worcester, MA 01608**
**Docket No.WO22P3929GD**
**NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Resignation or Petition for Removal of Guardianship of a Minor**
In the interests of
**Roman W Gignillat**
**of Northbridge, MA**
**Minor**
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

**1. Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition to Resign as Guardian of a Minor or Petition for Removal of Guardian of a Minor filed by **Hanna E Labelle on September 24, 2026** will be held 12/08/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing
Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**
**2. Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
**3. Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
**4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

ORDER TO PETITIONER(S)

**IT IS ORDERED THAT** copies of this Notice and the Petition for Resignation or Peition for Removal of Guardian of a Minor be served in hand on the minor, (if 14 or more years of age and not the petitioner), the guardian, the parents of the minor, and any other person if ordered by the Court, at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date listed above. If service in hand cannot be accomplished on any interested party. **IT IS ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and the Petition for Resignation or Peition for Removal of Guardian be served on the interested party by leaving at and mailing by regular first class mail to last and usual place of residence of the interested party at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the date of hearing listed above.
If the identity of whereabouts of an interested party is **not known**, **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and Petition for Resignation or Peition for Removal of Guardian of a Minor be served on all interested persons at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date by mailing first class mail and by publishing a copy of the Order and Notice once in **Blackstone Valley Tribune Northbridge** publication to be at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing date.
If required, service on the United States Veteran Administration and the Department of Children and Families may be accomplished by regular first class mail at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing.
**THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE:** An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: November 3, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
November 13, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**Probate and Family Court**
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**
**225 Main Street**
**Worcester, MA 01608**
**(508) 831-2200**
**Docket No. WO26P1361EA**
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
**David Phillip Hayes**
**Date of Death: 04/26/2004**
To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Kathleen E Haran of Worcester MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: .
**Kathleen E Haran of Worcester MA and Mary Ellen Keough of Worcester MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/01/2026.**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
**WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**
Date: November 02, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
**The Trial Court**
**Probate and Family Court**
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**
**225 Main Street**
**Worcester, MA 01608**
**Docket No. WO26P3558PM**
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT G. L.c. 190B, § 5-304, § 5-405**
**In the matter of:**
**Sherry Dutton**
**Of: Blackstone, MA**
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
**Rachel McKinnies of Bellingham, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Sherry Dutton** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that
**Anita Palmaccio, Esq. of Lancaster, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. .
**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 **11/24/2026.** 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.

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WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 29, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

For Legal Advertising Information, Call 508-909-4127 email:legals@stonebridge press.news

# Uxbridge High Class of 2027 to host final Breakfast with Santa

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge High School Class of 2027 will host its final Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, Dec. 19, from 9-11 a.m., inviting local families to celebrate the holiday season while supporting the junior class.

The event will take place in the Uxbridge High School cafeteria, located at 300 Quaker Highway.

Families are encouraged to bring their cameras for an opportunity to take photographs with Santa Claus.

The annual holiday gathering offers families an opportunity to enjoy a seasonal tradition while showing their support for the Class of 2027.

The event is open to community members interested in participating in the holiday festivities and supporting Uxbridge High School students.

# Local students are enrolled at College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — The College of the Holy Cross congratulates the new Crusaders who started at the College in Fall 2026. The following local students are part of the Class of 2030:

Julia Brynn Okenquist of Uxbridge

Maeve Sullivan of Douglas

At 860 students, the Class of 2030 includes students from 39 U.S. states and territories and 5 different countries. This incoming class represents one of the most academically accomplished classes in the College's history.

Admission to the Class of 2030 was more competitive than ever with a record-breaking 10,600+ applications received and a highly-selective 17 percent acceptance rate.

The new Crusaders have distinguished themselves through community service, leadership roles, and diverse participation in areas like the arts, music and athletics.

"Welcome, Class of 2030!" College President Vincent D. Rougeau told the class during First-Year Convocation. "As you settle into your residence halls, find your way around campus, meet new people, and experience college life here on the Hill, know that you are joining a global community of learners and educators and that your education is meant to serve not only you, but society as well."

About Holy Cross:

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

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## RESCUE
continued from page A1

careful work, rescuers were able to free the mare's front legs and slide her onto the plywood. After being given time to rest, the horse was able to stand and was safely walked out of the woods and up to Yew Street. She was evaluated by her owner's veterinarian and subsequently transported home.

Remarkably, the veterinarian reported that the horse sustained no injuries and was eating and resting comfortably once home.

Crews were on scene for approximately two hours. There were no injuries; one firefighter was evaluated by Leicester EMS for a medical complaint.

The Douglas Fire Department would like to recognize and thank the many agencies and individuals who assisted with this successful rescue: Blackstone Valley Regional Animal Control, District 7 Technical Rescue Team, with Leicester EMS providing a paramedic level ambulance and an air/light truck as part of the team. Webster Fire Department, which provided station coverage. Douglas Highway Department, for providing lighting equipment. Central Mass Rehab 78, which provided rescuers with hydration and on-scene support.

A special thank you goes to Douglas Firefighter/EMT Morgan Norton, whose knowledge and experience working with horses was invaluable in ensuring the safe care and extrication of the animal. FF Norton also generously provided access to plywood from her own horse facility, which was essential in creating a stable working surface for rescuers.

This incident is a great example of the teamwork, specialized resources, and community partnerships that come together to accomplish a challenging rescue. We are grateful for a positive outcome.

## GRANT
continued from page A1

the school's Director of Business & Finance, and other local officials. This partnership has successfully secured competitive grant funds, ultimately lowering energy costs across the town's public facilities, including both municipal and school buildings.

The state program is funded through a mandatory surcharge on electric and gas utility bills, which is collected in a state trust fund to provide grants and technical assistance to participating municipalities. This surcharge and program were enacted under the Green Communities Act, signed into law by then Governor Deval Patrick in July 2008. The Act directed the Department of Public Utilities to mandate that electric and natural gas distribution companies include energy efficiency charges on consumer utility bills. These collected funds are managed alongside state energy programs to finance municipal grants, technical assistance, and energy-efficiency initiatives across the Commonwealth. The surcharge is assessed and collected within all Massachusetts municipalities, regardless of their Green Communities designation status.

Since receiving its Green Communities designation in 2017, Northbridge has turned local investment of approximately $160,000 into over $1.6 million in awarded grant funding. This represents a 10:1 return on investment, even before factoring in the town's lowered utility bills. Moving forward, Northbridge remains dedicated to utilizing these grant resources to build a more sustainable, energy-efficient, and fiscally responsible community. Those interested in learning more about the Green Communities Program may contact R Gary Bechtholdt II, Community Planning & Development Director at (508) 234-2447 or via email at planning@northbridgemass.org.

## EVENT
continued from page A1

local businesses, giving back to our community, and taking the time to enjoy the connections that make our Valley so special. We're excited to welcome everyone to Vaillancourt Folk Art for an evening filled with holiday cheer, great company, and a few new surprises this year."

Register online at www.blackstonevalley.org/events. Members $10, Non-Members $20. Admission is FREE with a donation of an unwrapped toy or gift card to benefit children of all ages through Blackstone Valley Family Services. Please RSVP by Nov. 27. For more information, please contact Kristen Kearnan at 508.234.9090, ext. 100 or email Kristen at, kkearnan@blackstonevalley.org.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

## UNIBANK
continued from page A1

the community, like the Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration With Santa, the Scarecrow Contest, the Month of Love and the Hummingbird Festival."

UniBank designated its donation be used for Platinum Sponsorship of the Holiday Lighting Celebration With Santa being to be held on Saturday, Nov. 28, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Douglas Common.

"We hope the community comes out to enjoy this free holiday tradition, meeting and taking photos with Santa, seeing the Common lit for the holidays for the first time this year, enjoying all the incredible decorations, and enjoying homemade goodies and hot chocolate in the warmth of the basement of the 2nd Congregational Church," said Paresky. "UniBank generously sponsors this event annually, making it possible for us carry out this popular tradition."

The Society is only able to offer these activities which enrich the lives of people in the community with the support of UniBank and its other business and individual sponsors,

Pease follow the activities and events of the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. on their FB page. If you would like to support this organization, you can find out how to donate your time or make a monetary donation. They are holding their Fall Donation Drive now through Nov. 30, so now is the perfect time to offer your support. It takes a village to make the Douglas Common a source of pride and a location where community can come together to celebrate. All 2026 donors will be recognized on the Recognition Banner at the Common in January, including Memorial Donations made this year.

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# *Come to give blood, experience the magic of Trans-Siberian Orchestra*

WORCESTER — The American Red Cross and Trans-Siberian Orchestra invite eligible donors to make an appointment to give blood, platelets or plasma and enjoy a special opportunity to experience the magic of the holiday season while helping save lives.

When donors hurry in to give blood, platelets or plasma, they can earn at least 100 points through the Red Cross Donor Rewards program, which can be used to redeem two tickets to select performances of Trans-Siberian Orchestra's The Ghosts of Christmas Eve: The Best of TSO and More, while supplies last. Trans-Siberian Orchestra will perform in Worcester on Nov. 28, for the 7:30 p.m. show at the DCU Center. (To learn more about Donor Rewards, visit RedCrossBlood.org/rewards.)

"The Red Cross is in constant need of blood donations, and it's so important that we all step up," said Trans-Siberian Orchestra's Al Pitrelli. "You give blood to support a wonderful cause and in exchange, you come spend the holidays with us. It's a win-win!"

Quantities are limited! To make an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or download the Blood Donor App.

The holiday season can be a challenging time to ensure the blood supply remains stable, even as busy schedules may prevent regular donors from giving. "Blood donors make a profound difference in the lives of patients every day," said Darren Irby, executive director of brand partnerships for the Red Cross. "This special Donor Rewards offer is a meaningful way to thank those who come to roll up a sleeve to help others while giving them the chance to enjoy an unforgettable holiday experience, thanks to the generosity of TSO."

How to donate blood

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

About the American Red Cross

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds and provides comfort to victims of disasters; supplies about 40% of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; distributes international humanitarian aid; and supports veterans, military members and their families. The Red Cross is a nonprofit organization that depends on volunteers and the generosity of the American public to deliver its mission. For more information about our work, please visit redcross.org/MA or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or follow us on social media.

# Worcester native, QCC trustee in running to become Logan Airport's new voice


Max German

WORCESTER — Max German, a member of the Quinsigamond Community College Board of Trustees, has been selected as one of eight finalists in Massport's "Voice of Logan" contest, which will determine the next official voice heard by millions of travelers passing through Boston Logan International Airport.

German, born in Worcester and raised in Shrewsbury, was chosen from over 5,000 applicants after submitting an audition that showcased his distinctly Massachusetts voice.

"It's been such a fun experience since becoming a finalist. I've been texting everybody I know," said German, who traces his Worcester-style New England accent to his mother and grandparents.

German is among eight finalists competing for the chance to become the newest voice welcoming visitors to Boston throughout Logan Airport. Public voting is underway and will help determine the winner.

While German will represent his current Dorchester neighborhood in the contest, he remains deeply proud of his Worcester roots and his connection to QCC.

"QCC was so formative," German said. "I graduated high school and didn't know where my path would lead, but I was able to figure it all out at QCC. I got my grades up, got involved, and haven't looked back."

At QCC, German was involved in initiatives such as the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society's effort to establish a campus food pantry. What began as a closet stocked with shelf-stable groceries has since grown into a comprehensive resource center offering fresh produce, hygiene products and connections to housing and other community supports.

After graduating from QCC, German transferred to Boston College, where he earned a bachelor's degree. He is now enrolled at Boston College Law School. In 2025, he joined the QCC Board of Trustees as a way to give back to the college and community that helped launch his academic and professional journey.

If he doesn't become the "Voice of Logan," German said he would be happy to serve as a voice for QCC instead.

"I would welcome people to the college by saying, 'QCC is the place that no matter who you are or where you are from, you will have an opportunity here for a better life,'" he added.

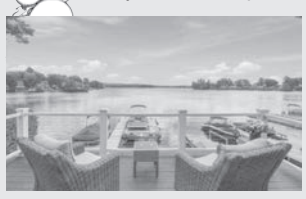
Audition videos and voting for the "Voice of Logan" can be found at voiceoflogan.com/Voting.

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## Webster Lake ~ 93 Birch Island Rd



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**MLS# 73589032** **$1,199,000**

*** June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan* Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Maureen Cimoch * *Bryan Pelletier***

## Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12) Commercial Opportunity!




Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access. **MLS #73512426 $ 615,000**

## 24 Laurelwood Dr Webster Lake Waterfront




On the shores of prestigious Webster Lake! Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living with direct water access. This young modern craftsman lake home is masterly designed to maximize panoramic Western views through a two-story architectural tower. The home boasts 3,790 +/- square feet of sophisticated, three-story living space, complete with multilevel waterside decks, a radius stone faced patio, and a tiered landscape with its own waterfall. The living room flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck and into an exquisite sun-drenched sitting room. A magnificent primary bedroom suite offers a private full bath, double sink vanity, walk-in closet and dressing room. The purposely designed lower level delivers effortless, large-volume entertainment, featuring a full second kitchen and a sprawling recreation room that opens to a substantial lakeside patio. With 2 additional bedrooms and bath, this level easily serves as a private guest floor. This Lake property is designed to create long-lasting memories!
MLS#73563787 **$1,750,000**

## Webster ~ 33 Slater Street

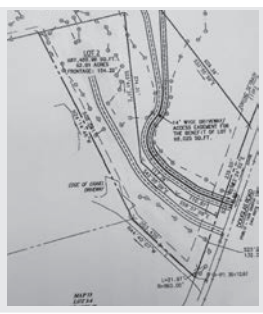



Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces-FHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/ sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom
MLS # 73500183 **$464,900**

## Thompson CT ~ 303 Riverside Dr




Country Cape Style Home set back about 120' from the road! 4 bedrooms, 1600 sq ft of living area. 2 story barn. 4 Acres surrounded by wide field stone walls.
**MLS# 24196428** **$415,000.**



## Webster - Douglas Rd (Rt 16) ANR Lot # 2

Building Lot, 2.01 +/- acres, 154' road frontage, Surveyed and portioned out of a larger tract of land, Zoned ASFR (Agricultural Single Family Residential) Located near State Land
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## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



### Webster Lake Waterfront 22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa

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### Webster Lake ~ 60 Wakefield Ave ~ Corner Lot!

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW home! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!



**Go To MLS # 73582966 $277,500.**

### Webster Lake ~0 Wakefield Ave



Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW HOME! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
**Go To MLS # 73582967 $247,500**






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## 2026-2027 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

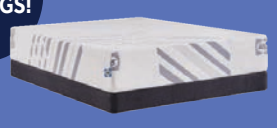
**Eighteen new members were inducted into the John T. Bajema Chapter of the National Honor Society at Whitinsville Christian School on Nov. 5. Front row: Christine Lee, Abisha Uttangi., Hannah Parke, Olivia Soden, Yvette Solorzano, Tessa Grelewicz-Ferreira, Katelyn Keeler, Fiona Johnson, Neriah Bagaya, and Cameron Houde. Back row: Cadence Calarese, Ryleigh Shanahan, Jacob Beatty, Michael Vos, Thomas Barry, Jack Johnson, Benjamin Barron, and Joshua Hilgenberg.**

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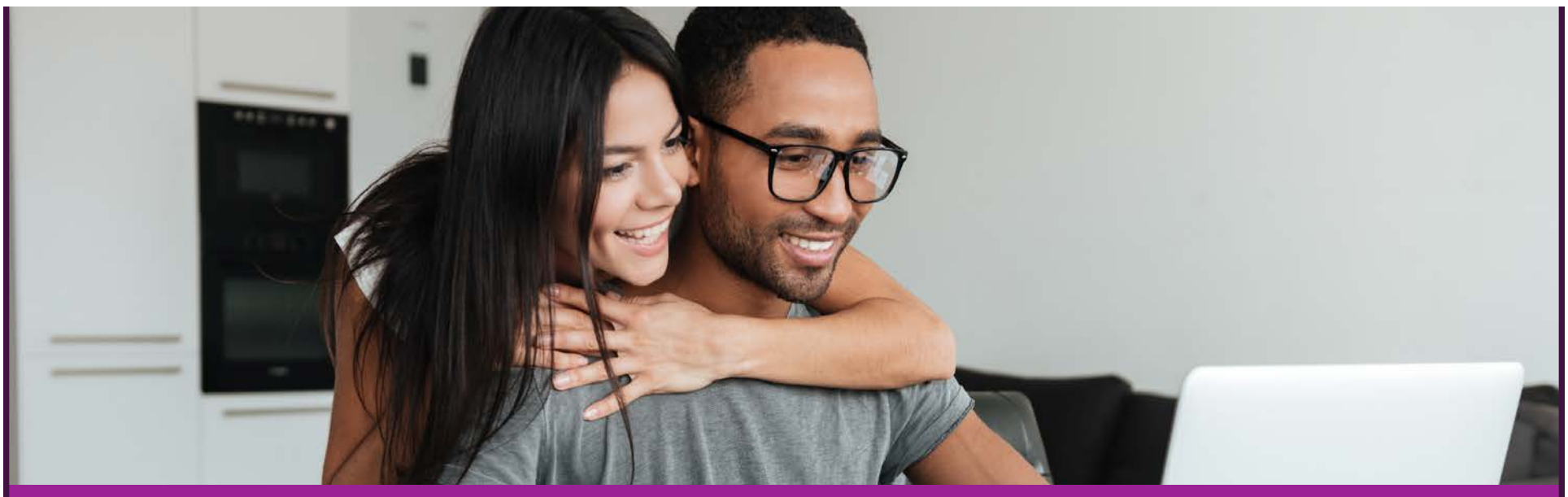
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*Timothy Ryan – Courtesy*

**Rep. Joe McKenna out in Douglas during election day.**



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