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Friday, May 26, 2023

Webster voters shoot down some borrowing articles, approve others

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — A notable batch of voters were in a no-borrowing mood, when they rejected several items on the preliminary special town meeting warrant earlier this month. But that did not stop them from approving some major spending, including borrowing \$33 million for two PFAS treatment plants.

The situation became apparent right off the bat May 8, when voters rejected the first article for paying some bills from fiscal 2022 twice. Under state law such “prior year bills” articles require a nine tenths majority vote to pass, and almost always get them (since they are for services rendered months before). But in this case both the regular vote and its reconsideration just missed that threshold, collecting just 85 and 89 percent in favor, respectively.

Between them, Town Administrator Richard Lafond noted “These bills are going to be paid one way or another,” and failing to pass that article might mean “legal action from these vendors.” He later said a half-hour of legal fees costs the town more than the bills are worth.

Later, Article 9 also went down in flames, when it got a majority but failed to reach the 2/3 vote needed to approve borrowing \$1.2 million for a new fire rescue truck, 109-88. In that case, Resident Joe Beresik argued against it on the grounds that the town's debt was already rising by \$1.4 million even without it (mostly for the Bartlett project).

Accountant Tim Bell tried to counter that by noting that project was debt-excluded from the Proposition 2 1/2 limit (which is true), while the debt the truck would add would still be under that limit (also true). But enough voters decided paying for it was still too much for them.

When one voter proposed reconsideration by changing the funding source to appropriating the money from free cash (which only requires a simple majority), Moderator Ted Avlas decided not to accept that after conferring with the town attorney.

The next article also failed the same way, 113-81. In that case, it sought to borrow \$350,000 for a generator

for the library. Lafond said it had been part of the original design, but was then rejected due to cost. Since then, the library has experienced power outages that trapped people in the elevator, and would be usable as an emergency backup shelter if it had one, he said. (The town's main shelter is the senior center.)

On the other hand, a borrowing item far larger than all the others combined passed easily, 162-31. That one approved \$33 million for the PFAS water treatment plant at Memorial Beach and one that treats PFAS, iron and manganese at Bigelow well. The funds

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Courtesy

BARTLETT STUDENTS CREATE CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Bartlett High School students from Ms. Sanborn's creative writing class wrote children's books and came to Park Ave. School to read their stories to the first and second graders. The high school students went from class to class reading their stories and answering questions. This was a memorable experience for our younger students to interact with the high school students. The teachers and students were grateful for the opportunity.

School District completes grant funded emergency preparedness exercises

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — On May 9, the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District held the second of two training sessions to help enhance the health and safety of students and staff by preparing officials within the district to better respond to an emergency scenario in or around the district

schools. The effort was funded by a \$7,000 Fels Family Foundation Grant that allowed the district to partner with the Edward David Company to engage in tabletop exercises geared towards preparing responses to school shootings or other multi-hazard scenarios. In April, the district performed the first of the two sessions which

included district administrators, principals, assistant principals, the nurse coordinator, maintenance representatives, and the school resource officer. The second training session on May 9 included a much larger group with representatives of the school committee, the chiefs of the police and fire

departments from both Dudley and Charlton, as well as representatives from Nichols College and UMass Memorial Health. Once again, the group engaged in tabletop exercises that Superintendent Steven Lamarche said helped the district understand where they need to improve.

“We continued table-
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Oxford Community Center receives Janet Malser Humanities Trust Grant Award

OXFORD — The Oxford Community Center is delighted to announce it was recently awarded a grant of \$10,000 from the Janet Malser Humanities Trust for musical performances, crafts and free community events at

Joslin Park on the Town Common – including a Mental Health Matters event on May 21 from 2-6 p.m., Teddy Bear Picnic on July 22, crafts and activities at Movies on Main Wednesday evenings in July and August, Scarecrows on the Common on Oct. 22, and the Fun, Frost & Family Winter Festival in January 2024.

“Without the generous support of the Janet Malser Humanities Trust and similar local organizations our free community programming could not exist,” said Shelley Lambert, the Community Center Director.

In addition to free community events, the Oxford Community Center offers year-round activity programming for all ages including a membership-based fitness program with 21 group fitness classes per week; recreational youth athletic programs including Winter and Summer Basketball, Start Smart Basketball, Soccer and Football; softball and baseball clinics; craft and educational programs for pre-school age children; Babysitting and CPR certification courses; and a summer activities program and swim lessons at Carbuncle Park. We also manage gymnasium rentals at the Community Center building, Bandstand rentals, and facility rentals at Carbuncle Park. For information on all programs and activities, please visit www.oxford-ma.us/oxford-community-center.

Dudley erects new Town Hall sign

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — The Town of Dudley has officially erected a new sign outside of the town's municipal complex creating a more visible and modern label for the facility which serves as the town hall, senior center, veterans office, and police department.

The design of the sign was picked by voters during a ballot vote in late 2022 during the state primaries. Three options were presented, all designed by members of the town's municipal staff, with the “Team B” design earning the most votes. The new sign, which cost \$18,000, was officially installed in early-May according to Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda who confirmed the news during a May 15 Board of Selectmen meeting adding that the sign was purchased and installed at no cost to Dudley taxpayers

“We thank the Janet Masler Humanities Trust for providing the funding for that. This new sign made of gran-



Jason Bleau

Employees of the Dudley Highway Department install a new sign in front of the town municipal complex.

ite was funded entirely by the grant including the cement to set the posts, the electric for the lights, right down

to the mulch and plantings that will be around it. Not one penny of taxpayer money was spent on the design, manufac-

ture, transport, or finish of the new sign,” said Ruda.

The Town Administrator and

Selectmen thanked Administrative Secretary Michelle Jarvis for leading the

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Demolition work underway on Mill Race Bridge

DUDLEY — The bridge that spans the French River on the Dudley and Webster town line has been inaccessible since June 2021 because an adjoining dry bridge on the Dudley side, known as the Mill Race Bridge, was deemed unsafe.

The bridge was closed by MassDOT order when an inspection revealed an interior beam at the midspan was fatigued.

Dudley Highway Superintendent Jeffrey Murray said monies budgeted for routine road repair were used to fund the demolition.

While Dudley officials work toward a permanent fix, they are also seeking funds to erect a temporary bridge.

MassDOT has an inventory of temporary Acrow modular bridges available for loan, but Dudley must come up with \$600,000 to \$800,000 for its engineering and installation.

If the funding for a temporary bridge is not found, it could be five or more years before the road reopens.

In a Jan. 31 letter, MassDOT deemed the bridge work eligible for funding and approved the estimated cost of \$6,235,000. The town is responsible for the costly and time-consuming process of right-of-way acquisitions. MassDOT will handle the design and environmental permitting, the letter said.

24th Masonic District tradition strong!

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

CHARLTON — On Saturday, May 20, the 24th Masonic District held its Annual Masonic Widows and Veterans Luncheon at the Overlook Masonic Home facilities in Charlton.

This event has been going on for over a decade. Chairmen Brother Dean Moss, and committee members bro. Steve Dragon were very happy to see all the attendees that came out for this very special tradition to honor our Masonic veterans and their widows. Fifty-one people attended, including many of the Overlook facility residents, to honor these Masonic veterans and their widow's luncheon. There was entertainment by Clyde Wheatley who played his saxophone and played mostly jazz from the '30s to '40s era. His music brought back many memories for those who attended this event.

Prior to entering the hall veterans and widows registered for the event. Widows were handed a Masonic pin and a pamphlet "Our Tribute to you honoring the loss of your loved one." Presented at this event was a 50-year Masonic Veterans Service Medal to bro. John Merz who is affiliated with the Rose of Sharon Lodge located at the Overlook in Charlton. At the main dining hall entrance



Courtesy

Center, standing, left to right Brother John Merz received his 50 years Masonic Veterans Service Medal presented to him by 24th Masonic District Deputy Grand Master Brother Jonathan Neitz shaking his hand in a packed room of veterans and widows.

the ladies were given a red rose from Leslie Cape of the Clara Barton Chapter No. 63 of The Eastern Star.

Prior to the meal the Color Guard entered the dining hall. The flag bearer, a Vietnam veteran Chief Petty Officer bro. Larry Olson walked proudly holding the flag high. Behind him was our 24th District Deputy Grand Master Brother Jonathan Neitz and Chairmen bro. Dean Moss. The color guard stopped, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said by all. The Chairman of this event, bro. Dean Moss spoke and

thanked everyone for attending this event. He quoted and said to me he looked forward to this event because "The best thing we can give our widows and veterans is our time". These are veterans who served our country when we needed them the most and risked their lives so we could have a better life. They have served their country with honor and distinction and the widows supported them and believed in what they were fighting for. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org to find a lodge nearest you.

FOR RENT

Dudley Plaza at 10 Airport Road, Dudley, MA. 2,300/sf space next to Park and Shop available. It is ideal for bakery, pizza shop, deli, office, smoke shop and coffee shop.
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WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 14-20.

A 37-year-old from Oxford whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on May 14 on multiple counts each of Strangulation or Suffocation and Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Mariah Marie Adair, age 27, of Webster was arrested on May 15 in connection with multiple warrants.

Bionca Chanell Hamilton, age 32, of Bloomfield Hills, Mich. was arrested on May 15 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, Vandalization of

Property, and Assault & Battery on a Police Officer.

Devon J. Vandyke, age 24, of Webster was arrested on May 16 on multiple counts of Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order.

Wilson Garcia, age 37, of Danielson, Conn. was arrested on May 17 in connection with a warrant. A 42-year-old female from Dayville, Conn. was issued a summons in lieu of arrest during the same incident for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle and a Motor Vehicle Lights Violation. A 31-year-old female from North Grosvenordale was also issued a summons in lieu of arrest for Carrying a Dangerous Weapon.

Thomas J. Perras, age 50, of Webster was arrested on May 17 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Leaving the Scene of Property Damage.

Alyssa S. Delaurie, age 32, of Webster was arrested on May 18 in connection with multiple warrants. Delaurie was also issued a summons in lieu of arrest for Possession of a Class B Drug and Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute.

Mark Anthony Thomas, age 35, of Shrewsbury was arrested on May 18 in connection with a warrant.

Dudley Democrats to hold caucus June 5

DUDLEY — Registered Democrats in the town of Dudley will hold a caucus on Monday, June 5 at the Pearle L. Crawford Library, 40 Schofield Ave., Dudley. Delegates and Alternates to the 2023 Massachusetts Democratic State Convention will be elected. Registration will be at 5:30 p.m., and the caucus will begin at 6 p.m.

This year's state convention will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23 at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell. Thousands of Democrats from across the state will come together to discuss Party business and celebrate our successes as we prepare for upcoming elections.

The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats in the

town of Dudley. Pre-registered Democrats who were age 16 by May 23 will be allowed to participate and run as a Delegate or Alternate. Dudley can elect four Delegates and four Alternates to the Convention.

Youth, minorities, people with disabilities and LGBTQ individuals who are not elected as a Delegate or Alternate may apply to be an

Add-on Delegate at the caucus or at www.massdems.org.

New members of the Dudley Democratic Town Committee are welcome. If you are interested in getting involved in our vibrant group, please e-mail us at dudleymadems@gmail.com and be sure to check out the DDTC Facebook page.

Oxford Democratic Town Committee to hold caucus June 10

OXFORD — The Oxford Democratic Town Committee will host the annual caucus of town Democrats on Saturday, June 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the Oxford Public Library, 339 Main St., in the basement meeting room. There will be a registration period from 10-10:30 a.m. prior to the caucus.

The purpose of the caucus is to elect delegates and alternates to the Democratic State Convention on Sept. 23 in Lowell. This is a public meeting, but only registered or pre-registered (ages 16-17) Oxford Democrats may be nominated or vote. Others are welcome to attend as observers. Please contact Rick at 508-344-7018 with any questions. Thank you!

Clarification

WEBSTER — A press release published in last week's edition announcing an event for children at Memorial Beach stated that the event was being hosted by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Although the Coast Guard will be involved in the event, the sponsor is, in fact, Lakeview Marine.

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bankHometown to host clothing drive for Veterans Inc. & CT food drive for Veterans Base Camp

O X F O R D — bankHometown supports non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties through a bank-wide program called The Giving Tree. One of the pillars of this program is community — supporting programs that enhance the quality of life in the communities where its banks call home. bankHometown is planning an in-branch clothing and food drive to support two veterans' organizations in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Veterans Inc. in Worcester is hosting a Veterans Stand Down event on Friday, June 23. The Veterans Inc. Stand Down initiative connects veterans with the assistance programs they need to live healthy and fulfilling civilian lives. The 18th annual Stand Down event on Friday, June 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. will have over 60 service providers ready to accommodate veterans' needs. In preparation for this event, bankHometown will be collecting clothing donations at all its Massachusetts branches starting

Friday, June 2. Veterans Inc. has a specific need for women's spring and summer clothing, including undergarments and socks. All clothing donations are welcome.

In support of a separate initiative in Connecticut, bankHometown will be collecting food donations at all its Connecticut branches starting Friday, June 2. This drive will support Veteran's Base Camp in Chaplin, CT, an organization that provides transitional housing for veterans in need, as well as a food pantry for

area veterans. Non-perishable items needed include local store/grocery store gift cards; gas gift cards for food bank pickups; condiments such as mustard, mayo, ketchup, and relish; baking supplies such as sugar, flour, baking soda, baking powder and sugar substitutes; pasta; tuna; peanut butter; jelly; macaroni and cheese; toilet paper; paper towels; baby wipes and diapers; and pet food.

About Veterans

Inc. Veterans Inc. is a national leader in ending homelessness among veterans. They have one of the highest rates in the nation — 85 percent — for transitioning veterans out of homelessness. A 501(c)3 nonprofit headquartered in Massachusetts, Veterans Inc. is the largest provider of support services to veterans and their families in New England. Since 1990, They have helped more than 90,000 veterans in need, and today operate offices and

programs in all six New England states. For more information, visit veteransinc.org.

About Veterans

Base Camp Veterans Base Camp is a grassroots A 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing resources needed by Veterans, First Responders, Caregivers and those members of our community who are most vulnerable. The Veterans Base Camp team is a collaborative of: Veterans, First Responders,

Caregivers, and northeast Social Workers, Clinicians, Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2022, The Giving Tree donated approximately \$320,000 and over the last decade has donated more than \$2.5 million. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts and has \$1.3 billion in assets and 16 branches located throughout Central Massachusetts

Samuel Slater Experience hosting talk on Revolution's impact on families

WEBSTER — Women and children have always worked. But throughout much of history, their jobs were often domestic — around the home, the farm, or the neighborhood.

The Industrial Revolution changed that. Women and children began to work outside the home, and sometimes even far from home. They were cheap labor for America's expanding industries. The 1870 federal census showed one out of eight children were employed, a number that would rise to one in five by 1900. And these were children as young as 10, sometimes even younger.

At the start of the twentieth century, the political winds began to change. Hiring children became less acceptable and companies like Hopedale's Draper Corporation rewrote their own history to hide their workers' past.

Join historian and Hopedale Women's History Project founder Linda Hixon to learn more about women and children in the working world and how their labor helped shape this country.

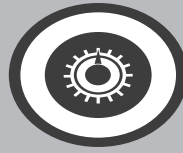
Ms. Hixon's presentation will be held on Saturday, June 10, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Samuel Slater Experience, 31 Ray St., Webster. The event is free; registration is requested at Eventbrite.com.

"Women and Children on the Time Clock" is sponsored in part by the Webster Cultural Council.

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

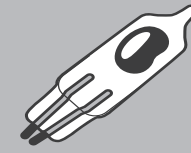
Mercury is found in products such as:



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Thermometers



Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

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SNHU announces Winter 2023 Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Winter 2023 Dean's List. The winter terms run from January to May.

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

Kyle Marin of Webster
Dennis James Stelmach of Dudley
Sidney Holmes of Webster
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS JOB DESCRIPTION

Summer Intern/Activities Coordinator

REPORTS TO: Food Service Director

RESPONSIBILITIES:

All designated duties of assisting Summer Feeding Programs for the Webster Public Schools during summer 2023 operations. Working under the Food Service Director in daily program needs including but not limited to marketing, promotion, software maintenance, activities, on-site agendas, and organizing documentation. This is a temporary position for the current summer only.

Rate: \$18/ hour during Summer Feeding Program

DUTIES INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Assist program operations and complete tasks designated to by the Food Service Director
- Distribute outreach and promotion of program information verbally, online, and locally in person
- Help plan, organize, set up, and oversee program activities and on site activities
- Work and communicate with program sponsors and program partners
- Use Mosaic software to update meals, menu items, and school food service related requirements for Summer and the upcoming school year
- Work with Food Service Staff as needed in serving areas on site
- Assist in set up and cleaning of summer related activities and site operations
- Maintain a positive, cooperative and productive working relationship with staff, participants, parents, sponsors, and anyone associated with Summer Feeding through the use of patience, courtesy and tactful communication
- Assist with receiving orders and occasional food prep or service
- Participate in required professional development and other trainings offered
- Follows Food Service Department dress code including appropriate footwear, jewelry, hair covering and manicure
- Performs other work related duties as instructed

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must enjoy interacting with the community and youth in both a business and food service environment
- Understanding of School Meal Program requirements and procedures preferred
- School Nutrition, Culinary and/or Food Service experience preferred
- Working knowledge of food preparation methods, food safety and procurement
- Ability to multi-task and work under pressure
- Ability to lift/carry 50 lbs and push/pull/transport food carts, food items including boxes, and food bags
- This position is vital to the operation of the Food Service Department during Summer Programming and therefore punctuality and regular attendance is of high importance
- Must agree to CORI check and fingerprinting (at employee's expense) prior to start date

Please contact Kelsey Sanders, WPS Food Service Director at 508-943-0104 extension 40016 or by email at ksanders@webster-schools.org

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Seniors named to Bay Path honor roll

CHARLTON—The following members of the senior class were named to the honor roll for the third quarter of the 2022-2023 school year at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School.

High Honors

Olivia Beaudette, Julia Canty, Daniel Chaffee, Noah Cowher, Elizabeth Dreitlein, Elaina Dunbar, Aiden Gelardi, Emily Gelineau, Evan Gelineau, Adrian Gonzalez, Emma Hesselton, Samantha Inangelo, Marissa Keefe, Aidan LaFrance, Gianaleze Lopez, Matthew Marsall, Connor McCarthy, Mackenzie Morrissey, Merissa Murray, Damon Provencal, Emma Rannikko, Arminda Simoes, Sawyer Smith, Naomi Soriano

Honors

Alyssa Adams, Jake Aho, Samuel Audunsson, Lukus Bachand, Sincere Bailey, Caucy Beaver, John Begg, Coulton Benvenuti, Alexander Besaw, Benjamin Besaw, Skylia Blowers, Samuel Boria, Jon Boyle, Dennis Brunelle, Miranda Burden, Kendra Carter, Matthew Casati, Michael Chansignavong, Amanda Christianson, Isabella Coleman, Makayla Collins, Anthony Comforti, Crystal Curving, Samantha DeCell, CamRon Desrosiers, Ronald Desrosiers, Brenna Donohue, Ty Dupuis, Amanda Englund, Collin Farrell, Zachary Finizza, Tori Fontaine, Zachary Ford, Evan Frost, Emma-Abigail Gachagua, Osiris Gonzalez, Nathan Goozey, John Guerin, Grace Jones, Calista Kalil-Johnson, Matthew Kallgren, Eyan Karlowicz, Hunter Kelley, Delaney

Kirkorian, Jason Lavallee, James LeProhon, Ayden Le-tourneau, Yamilisha Machado, Judly Maignan, Matthew Marchetti, Dylan McDonald, Rachel McMenemy, Yerilian Miranda-Colon, Kyle Moody, Stephen Ngaruiya, Jonathan Nussey, Gabrielle Oikle, Michaen Pacheco, Joelle Peluso, Kiyana Perez, Amelia Peterson, Trevor Phillips, Jacob Provencher, Timothy Putnam, Ariane Ramos, Jenisey Ramos, Tatiana Ridriguez, Wyatt Sadusky, Jazlynn Santana, Kieya Santerre, Nolan Sharry, Terry Simon, Evan St. Cyr, Emma St. Francis, Gavin Suprenant, Damion Szafarowicz, Alexander Tetreault, Jacob Thomas, Yahil Vega-Cortes, Emily Westwell, Kaydence White-Owens, Jacob Wilga, Jonathan Young, Makenna Zella

Principal's List

Ayan Ahmad, Jonathan Barakilis, Quinn Beck, Andrew Bottcher, Grace Co-meau, Valerie Diaz, Cheryl Dolson, Gabriel Espinosa, Jayden Flanders, Zachary Fritze, Makenzie Gonzalez, Julius Guillen, Isabella Heck, Lauren Hennessey, Michael Jalbert, Nakia L'Ecuyer, Madison Lamica, Sydney Lamontagne, Anthony Leite, Timothy Maenpaa, Jaime Marrero, Alyssa Masciarelli, Daltin McCarthy, Myeisha McDaddie, Erika Melendez, Dylan Morrison Ilvonen, Sebastian Pabon, Georgios Pirperis, Madison Poirier, Hilary Queirolo, Sabrina Rodrigues, Abraham Routhier, Ronin Simone, Matthew Steen, Sean Sweeney, Brayden Therrien, Taylor Tremblay

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley
508-949-8021
Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!

To register go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

PRE-K POWER STORYTIME
Tuesdays @ 11:00AM
Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

TODDLER TIME
Wednesdays @ 11:00AM and 3:45PM
Come join us for Toddler Time! We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs! This program is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

QUILTING GROUP
Wednesdays @ 1:30PM – beginning March 8th
All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

LEARN TO PLAY DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
Thursdays @ 6:00PM

“Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama? We have an experienced Dungeon Master ready to run a new game of Dungeons and Dragons, the world’s number one role playing game. We are missing just one thing ... YOU! This is for those that are looking to learn more about playing and do some short adventures!”

Open to ages 10+, children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for this free program.

KNIT & CROCHET GROUP
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

LEGO CLUB
Mondays @4:00PM
Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

POKEMON CARD TRADING
Tuesdays @ 4:00PM
Children are invited to bring their Pokemon cards for informal card trading and discussion.

ART EXHIBIT BY ANNE TISELL
Throughout the month of May
The Pearle will host an exhibit of works by local artist Anne Tisdell, open to the public during regular library hours.

MAKE A HAMMERED HAIR PIN
Thursday, May 25 6:00PM-7:45PM
The experts from Castle Nitor will lead a workshop on making a hammered hair pin. This program is suitable for those 13 and up. Space is limited; please register at crawford-library.org/!

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

PEARLE JAM: MASS-CONN-FUSION
Thursday, June 1 6:00PM-7:45PM
The annual Pearle Jam concert series kicks off with Mass-Conn-Fusion, playing songs from the 60s to today’s top hits.

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

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

PAINT NIGHT
Thursday, June 8 6:00PM-7:45PM
Returning favorite Jean Walker will lead a paint class.

This class is intended for those 16 years of age and older.
Space is limited, so registration is required.
Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

DEB'S SING & SWING
Thursday, June 15 10:30AM-11:15AM

This is an interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

SUMMER READING KICKOFF!
Saturday, June 24 11:00AM-12:30AM

Come and meet Gilbert the Party Pig and Violet! You will get a chance to see them do tricks, feed them, and some get some fun photos with them!

While you are here you can sign up for Summer Reading!!!!

Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$453,000, 6 Hickory Ln, Anthony, Michael J, and Tejera, Carlos A, to Andrade, Kevin C, and Roden, Ethan C.

\$365,000, 10 Curtis St, Moss, Michelle, to Pereira, Homero D, and Fernandes, Jennifer.

\$275,000, 362 Leicester St, Mayo, Ronald P, to Mahoney Jr, James M, and Mahoney, Sharon L.

\$269,990, 408 Pakachoag St, Hud, to Sheme, Ariola, and Braho, Gentjan.

DUDLEY

\$700,000, 9 Cottage Rd, Vajcovec Nancy Jane A Est, and Vacovec, Kenneth J, to Bassett Jr, Kenneth C, and Scanlon-Bassett, Doreen.

\$660,000, 427 Mason Rd Ext, Tsimogiannis, Odisefs, to Peck, Derek R, and Piehl, Sarah L.

\$470,000, 44 Alton Dr, Alves, Flavio A, and Dossantos, Sostenes, to Mccrillis, Michelle, and Ellis, John.

\$450,000, Forrest Rd, Four Lots Dudley Rt, and Katsikis, Haralambos, to Georges Ft, and Georges, Peter.

\$450,000, Jesse Rd, Four Lots Dudley Rt, and Katsikis, Haralambos, to Georges Ft, and Georges, Peter.

\$305,000, 176 Corbin Rd, Moninski, Desiree L, and St Laurent, Jeffery A, to Roddy, David.

\$180,000, 9 Chestnut St #13, Harris, Stephen D, and Svedberg, Shayne A, to Piantoni, Gina B.

OXFORD

\$600,000, 9 Jasmine Rd, Donaghy, Brianna, and Vega, Benito, to Patel, Jayatiben, and Patel, Kishankumar.

\$20,000, Leicester St, Frieswick, Jeanne B, to Rock, John, and Rock, Amber.

WEBSTER

\$1,430,000, 68 Bates Point Rd, Donna Matte 2014 T, and Matte, Donna, to Robert, David, and Robert, Diane.

\$850,000, 20 Bates Point Rd, Robert, David C, and Robert, Diane M, to Gagner, Tammie, and Meade, Larry.

\$365,000, 16 Campbell St, Shea, Courtney, to Ayers Jr, Robert R.

\$252,000, 42 E Main St, Auger, Jason L, to Rosario, Francisco.

\$197,000, 3 Brookline St, Caswell Jr, Andrew, to Morin, Katrina.

\$150,000, 7 Wyman St, Colaianni Marilyn G Est, and Colaianni, Matthew, to Howe, Michael.

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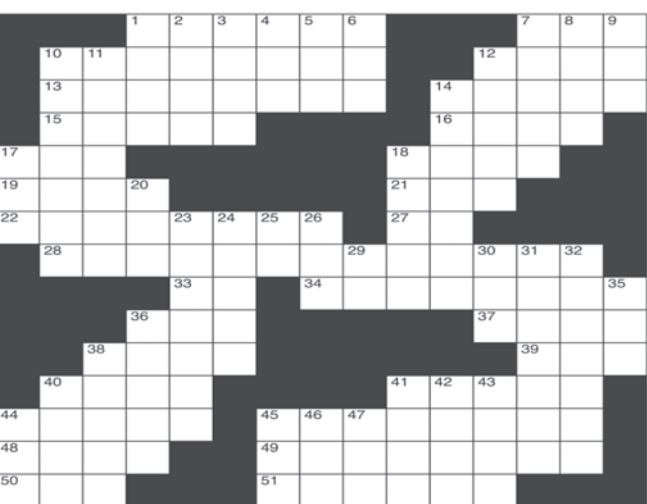
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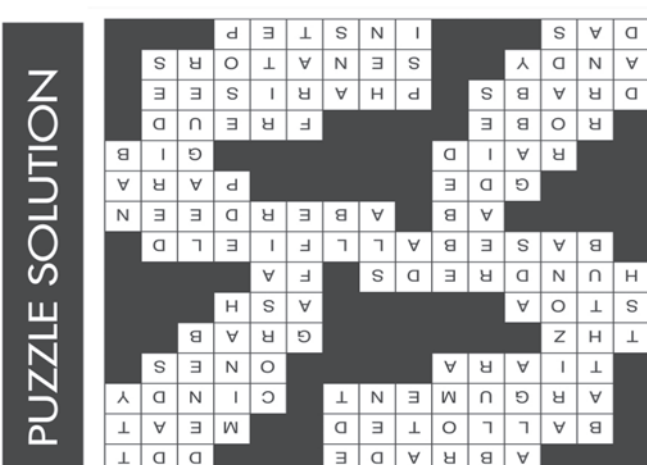


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Wear away by friction
- 7. Insecticide
- 10. Elicited a secret vote
- 12. Beef
- 13. Disagreement
- 14. ___ Crawford, supermodel
- 15. Jeweled headdress
- 16. Digits
- 17. Trillion hertz
- 18. Snap up
- 19. Classical portico
- 21. Residue after burning
- 22. Large integers
- 27. Free agent
- 28. Where ballplayers work
- 33. Blood type
- 34. Scottish city
- 36. Google certification (abbr.)
- 37. Serbian monetary unit
- 38. Make a sudden surprise attack on
- 39. Wood or metal bolt
- 40. Relaxing attire
- 41. Famed neurologist
- 44. Dullish brown fabrics
- 45. Member of ancient Jewish sect
- 48. Griffith, Rooney
- 49. Lawmakers
- 50. Government lawyers
- 51. The arch of the foot

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Nonflowering aquatic plant
- 2. Britpop rockers
- 3. National capital
- 4. Consumed
- 5. The habitat of wild animals
- 6. Sun up in New York
- 7. Cygnus star
- 8. Male parents
- 9. Talk to you (abbr.)
- 10. A place to clean oneself
- 11. Southwestern US state
- 12. South Korean idol singer
- 14. Pirate
- 17. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- 18. Mistake
- 20. Promotions
- 23. Prepares
- 24. Partner to flowed
- 25. State lawyer
- 26. Patti Hearst's captors
- 29. Pound
- 30. Electronic data processing
- 31. Sports player
- 32. Treats with contempt
- 35. Apprehend
- 36. Excessively talkative
- 38. Highways
- 40. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- 41. College organization for males
- 42. Any customary observance or practice
- 43. Employee stock ownership plan
- 44. Male parent
- 45. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
- 46. Female bird
- 47. Autonomic nervous system



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DUDLEY

DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000
Board of Selectmen (949-8001)
Monday-Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays.....8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Evening appointments if needed.
Note: Office hours are for selectmen's secretary and town administrator. S electmen do not hold office hours.
Town Clerk (949-8004)
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday nights 5 to 7 p.m.
Fridays.....9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DUDLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-4411)
Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week
DUDLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-8040)
Monday-Sunday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

OXFORD TOWN HALL (508) 987-6027
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours!
Monday, Tues., Thurs..... 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

OXFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT (987-0156)
For emergencies, call 911
OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

WEBSTER TOWN HALL (508) 949-3850
Office Hours:
Monday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT (943-1212)
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WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)
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Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Library Director, Sondra Murphy, at smurphy@cwmar.org.

The Library Lobby will be home to some very special friends for the month of June! Watch as 7 chicken eggs incubate throughout the month, then stop in or watch on Facebook Live as they hatch around June 13th. Don't miss seeing these adorable, fluffy chicks before they head back to the farm in early July! Funded by the friends of the library.

Our Friends group will be having their annual book sale June 8th- 10th.

Adult Programming
YOGA WITH JULIE – Saturday May 27th at 9:30 AM

Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the “uniting of movement with breath”. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT---
Thursday June 1st and Tuesday June 20th—6:00 PM

Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES---
SUNTA AFRICA BAND--- Thursday June 8th 6:30 PM

This concert will be held outside weather permitting so bring your lawn chairs!! If weather is bad it will be held inside the lobby. The Sunta Africa Band is a force of Funk mixed with some Soul, R&B Reggae & Blues, that brings an eclectic selection of original music and covers to any stage they play on! Funded by the friends of the library.

CHICKENS AROUND THE WORLD---
Thursday June 12th 5:00 PM

Learn how to care for chickens in your own backyard or a sustainable farming operation. Funded by the friends of the library

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUP— Thursday June 15th at 6:30 PM

The Group will be reading and discussing Amor Towles's The Lincoln Highway Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880 or email rcox@cwmar.org for inquiries.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
MAKER MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM

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

MINI STEM-CHALLENGE – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 PM

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

STEM CLOSING EVENT—
WHALEMOBILE--- 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Come see a life-size whale exhibit you can walk through! Learn all about whales from the inside out! Registration Required. Please check the website for signups!

MOM'S DROP-IN GROUP—Tuesday Mornings 10 AM

Moms and caregivers, bring your children, ages 0-5, to our drop-in open playtime. In this community-building event, we set out toys for your children to play with as you get to see and know other parents from the area who have children of similar ages. Stop in any time between 10 am and 12 pm and

stay as long or as little as you like.

BABY MASSAGE CLASSES---
Thursday afternoons in June at 1:30 PM
Baby Massage can help with gas, constipation, bonding, soothing, and sleep. Sheryl will model the strokes on a doll as the parents practice the techniques on their babies.

SENSORY BIN EXPLORATION---
Wednesday mornings in June at 10 AM
Children and their caretak-

ers are welcome to come explore their sense of touch as they play in different sensory-stimulating materials like rice, orbes, Epsom salt, and more.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES--SUMMER
READING KICKOFF--- Monday June 26th at 10:00 AM

Join us for this exciting outdoor event marking the kickoff of summer reading! There will be animals of all shapes and sizes. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public

Library.

ONE UP GAMES: OPEN GAME
PLAY WITH VR--- SUMMER READING
KICKOFF---3:00 PM

One Up Games brings a variety of next-gen consoles and gaming monitors to the library, along with popular games, classic games and retro games. Up to 30 teens can play what they wish, with the freedom to move to any system and play any game. Funded by the Friends of the library.

Town Meeting nixes Thompson Road zone change

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

WEBSTER — After a fairly heated Special Town Meeting and an otherwise very quiet Annual Town Meeting, voters ended their combined meeting with a few proverbial fireworks May 8 over a citizen petition.

That petition sought to rezone a swath of Thompson Road between the road itself and I-395 from General Business B5 to Agricultural Single-Family Residential.

It started with Thompson Road Neighborhood Association spokesman Douglas Valeri, who argued the group's “35-plus” households sought to “preserve, protect and improve our community” and “preserve the history of Thompson Road,” including two homes built in 1825 and 1850. He said the change would also protect the area's ecosystem of “over 50 acres of land” that he said is “vital to the health of Webster Lake.”

To Valeri and his supporters, the uses allowed under B5 zoning are “high-traffic, high-impact and high-land-masses that are better served in downtown or industrial areas,” he added, claiming it had been “spot zoned” to B5 back in the 1970s

Another man bookended their case by arguing that the development of the area's boat marina “was pushed through” in violation of existing zoning rules that require 50 feet of frontage (he claimed it only has 43). “This would be fixing an injustice,” he said to applause. Another woman claimed “someone from the historical department doesn't understand we should be preserving that area.”

Opponents, however, took the day, when the final vote was 73-83. The Planning Board held a hearing that included the petition, and rejected it unanimously, Chair Paul Laframboise said.

He argued it “wasn't just a spot zone” because B5 exists “on both ends” of the properties in question. He said the board rejected it because they felt they didn't have enough information on its overall effects on town and that proponents provided no review of “what the bad parts of doing this would be.”

Elaine Davis agreed, saying she felt the petition sponsors offered “no rationale ... no data, no resources, nothing vetted” on how it would protect the ecosystem.

“I urge you to vote no until we get more information,” she said.

Jim Karapanos was more blunt, saying, if it passes “it will devalue property” in the commercial areas.

One man who spoke said he felt it would make many current businesses “non-conforming uses ... which would have an enormously detrimental effect on the town's economic base.” Among other things, he noted they wouldn't be able to expand.

“Why would we give up a valuable business-zoned area that's already predominantly commercial and frivolously try to return it to residential?” he asked rhetorically.

Another observed the proponents “have some legitimate gripes, but I don't see how rezoning it solves the problems that already exist there.” He specifically referred to the marina.

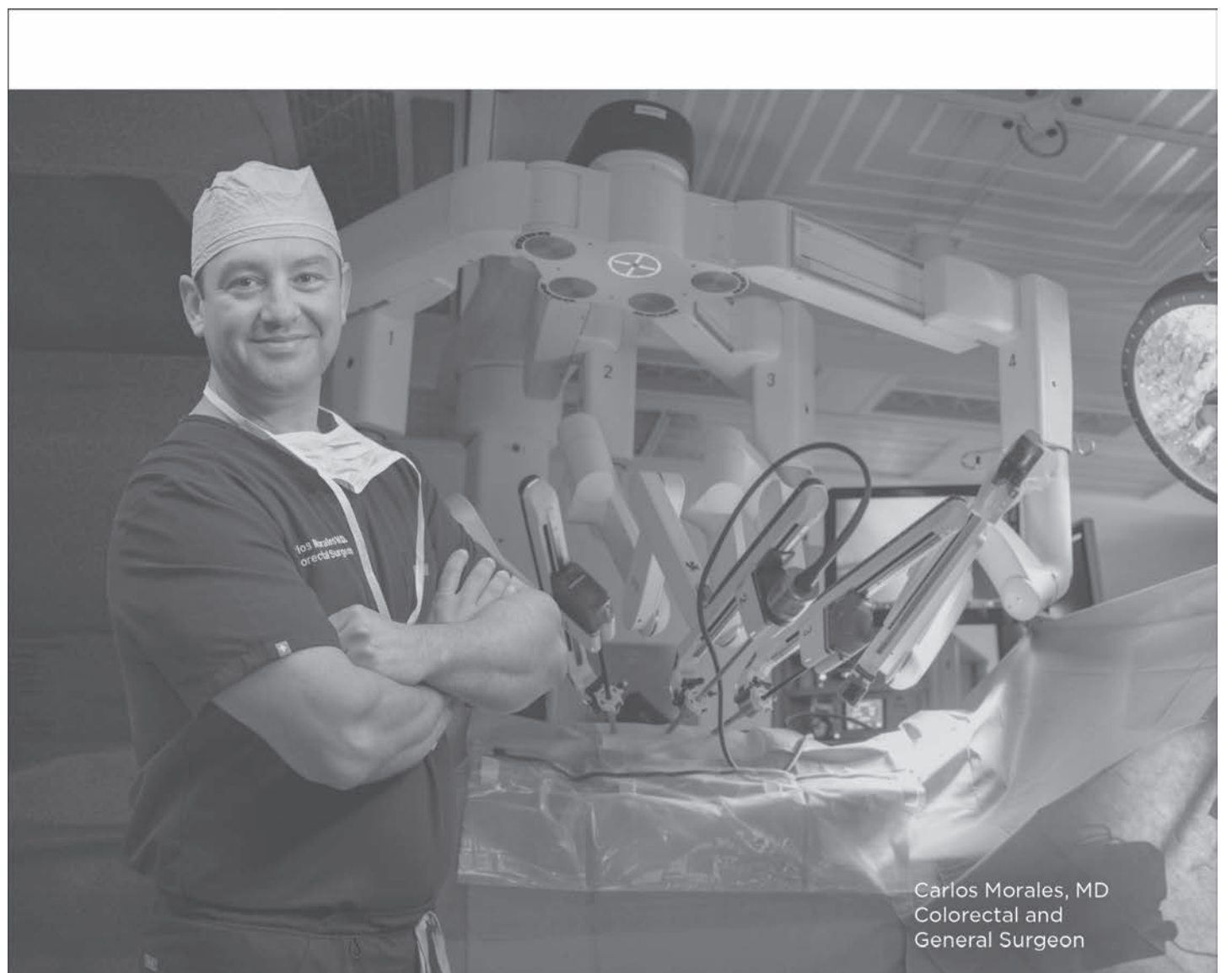
One supporter, however, argued the change would only affect three businesses, and one of them (the veterinary hospital) signed the petition. “[We're] trying to protect the ecosystem and our homes from a trucking and busing terminal coming in – it's a use by right,” he said, citing other allowed uses in the B5 zone he did not like.

The other citizen petition, seeking to have the town accept the extension of Oakwood Drive as

a town road, met a much more friendly fate, passing 100-7. Voters also approved giving the selectmen authority to negotiate with property owners to acquire parts of private parcels that make up Davis Street's right of way and turn it into a town road.

Similarly high numbers approved all of the other articles, many of them with no questions and only very brief explanations that sparked no debate. Those included the \$57.9 million budget (passing 128-28), the \$4.27 million sewer enterprise fund (128-25), the \$3.04 million water enterprise fund (134-16), and several fairly routine items. Several zoning changes went through without debate, including amending the flood plain rules to align with new FEMA standards and eliminating nearly identical language in several districts regarding building setbacks. Voters also approved added language that would set fines for animal control violations, which Town Administrator Richard Lafond described as “merely correcting an oversight.”

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



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Quinsigamond Community College releases list of graduates

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has released its 2023 list of graduates. On Friday, May 19, at 1 p.m., QCC graduates took part in its 58th commencement ceremony at the DCU Center. To view the ceremony, visit www.QCC.edu/commencement. The ceremony will also be shown on public access station WCCA-TV 194.

Associate in Applied Science
 Fiskdale: Tristan Shaw
 Associate in Arts
 Auburn: Zahraa Alshammari, Jacqueline Cetrone, Kiara Diaz, Priscilla Kot, Hailey Martell, Emma Martin
 Brookfield: Alaina Chiminello, Riley Hanrahan, Tay-Lynne Pope
 Charlton: Kristen Karalus, Haley LaFortune, Connor Novack, Cady Stevens, Maxwell Taylor
 Cherry Valley: Stephanie Grayum, Joslyn Rutter, Rosa Velez
 Dudley: Grace Jocson, Mick Sullivan, Mehrael Towadros, Amanda Wisnowski, Gabriel daSilva
 East Brookfield: Matthew Porra
 East Douglas: Caroline Beaird, Benjamin Doyen, Rheianna Messier, Kylie Sullivan, Harley Westgate
 Grafton: Haley Becotte, Christina Duggan, Brinna Smith
 Leicester: Kaitlyn Hakenson, Kristina Jarobski, Lilly Kinney, Cassidy Saksa, Allison Virzi
 Milford: Joseph Beaugard, Joseph Cafarella, Mildred Castanos, Danielle Cerqueira, Kayla DaSilva, Joslin Pinto, Amanda Silva
 Millbury: Gabriella Bianchi, Jacob Brodeur, Kelsey Graves, Ivie Lapointe, Jala Tadros, Michael Ward
 North Brookfield: Kelsie Fantasia, Michelle Varrichione
 North Oxford: Skyla Hodsdon
 Northbridge: Jonathan Toloczko
 Oxford: Kwabena Asiamah, Angeliqutte Bettencourt, Allison Hamel, Julia Leary, Ethan Smith, Christina Winsky
 Southbridge: Benjamin Ayres, Zachary Campbell, Rayann Carl, Norma Cignarella, Maria Hernandez-Santos
 Spencer: Courtney Angell, Caitlyn Berthiaume, Sherline Clemente Irizarry, Andrew De Klerk, Caileigh DeGon, Joseph Hallihan, Carli Kerns, Nathaniel Rybicki
 Sturbridge: Brynlee Beaucage, Agnieszka Laster, Ryan Manners, Erik Orellana, Jeannette Ortiz De Ramos, Katerina Pacheco Wolf, Christopher Tejada
 Sutton: Disha Khanna, Rebecca Manzano Howard, Alexis Marsh
 Uxbridge: Hailey Bergman, Julia

Comeau, Trevor Gardner, Jeremy Lutton
 Wales: Morgan Bacon
 Webster: Hannah Brody, Elena Ralph
 West Upton: Omer Rona
 Whitinsville: Isabel Carroll, Joshua Pinoos
 Associate in Science
 Auburn: Yahya Alnassar, Danielle Beahn, Kylee Christie-Perez, Nancy Gatui, Dawson Gemme, Erika Goff, Kayla Gualdarrama, Muhammad Ibrahim, Kathleen Keefe, Kayla MacDermott, Kyle Nash, Bethany Paradis, Stephanie Sciaraffa
 Blackstone: Christina Boyan
 Brookfield: Shawn Greenwood, Vanessa VanGerven
 Charlton: Jonea Albano, Brienna Dean, Johnson Ebe, Natasha Emco-Rollins, Zenyah Figueroa, Theodore Girard, Ralph Hebert, Erica Hyde, Jessica Lapierre, Amanda McDermott, Baker Meece, Nicole Mulvey, Rebecca Ricardi, Dylan Smaltz, Katelyn Smith
 Cherry Valley: Maureen Mason
 Douglas: Alorian Orcutt, Kattie Turgeon
 Dudley: Nicholas Andreoli, Anthony Awad, Mia Bohanan, Nayalis Gonzalez, Reyna Gonzalez, Michael Grant, Sharon Guidaboni, Camden Haynes, Michelle Jones, Nicole Karp, Christopher Lincoln, Danielle Mello, Julie Milner, Thomas Reilly, Chris Surman, Hannah Volpe
 East Douglas: Britni Conner, Heather Dodd, Edward Dubois, Adam Gaulin, Hayden Krasner, Earl Parfitt, Peyton Simoneau
 Fiskdale: Lauren Augustine, Brianna Lawrence
 Grafton: Alison Burough, Andrea Carenzo, Arthur Mahassel, Elisabeth Spencer
 Groton: Derek Woodard
 Holland: Hunter Boudreau, Stephanie Bray, Robert Smith
 Leicester: Jon Auger, Owen Boisvert, Aimee Brigham, Ryan Butler, Camden Crocker, Madison Lloyd, Christina Penney
 Milford: James Cruz, Mariana Ferraz
 Millbury: Mari Alkhamisi, Brenna Berube, Jacqueline Birtz, Elizabeth Chagnon, Susan Flanagan, Natalie Lebo, Brianna Manzella, Christianna McPherson, Lily Nguyen, Kailey O'Neil, Peter Oliveira, Hannah Sarro
 North Brookfield: Ashley Gerstel, Jillian Quigley, Michaela Santoro
 North Grafton: Sarah Bianco, Jermel Lyons, Rabia Mateen, Julia Rooney, Kelvin Virak
 North Oxford: Cinthya Bucaro-Figueroa, Gracyn Mauch
 Northbridge: Julia Kelley, Kirtan Patel, Lauren Riess, Samantha Violet
 Oxford: Kayla Brodeur, Susan Cicerchia, Tommy Estevez, Bryan Givner, Nathan Hagopian, Chloe Hatstat, Amanda Listewnik, Roseline Mediavilla, Rose Morin, Nicholas Rawson, Jaileen Saez, Jillian Walsh
 South Grafton: Nicholas Fobert, Nicholas Lima, Tiffany Maynard, Nawal Zeidan
 Southbridge: Amanda Alicea, Ariel Balderelli, Wendy Berroa, Miguel Cepeda, Lillian Clemmey, Evan Duffey, Daniel Fuentes, Margaret Githui, Giovanni Hernandez, Hilary Lapan, Amy Lashway, Hilda Maldonado, Amanda Mauro,

Eridon Mehmeti, Samantha Nordstrom, Miosotis Rosado, Justin Santiago, Georgina Wangeci Macharia
 Spencer: Stacey Arsenault, Melissa Consiglio, Dawson Durgin, Jason Fyrberg, Eric Lammi, Raven Martin, Lourdes Morales, Kyle Paquette, Danielle Provencher, Kyle Sadusky, Doretta Stoler, Bryanna Sullivan, Yujia Wei, Jodie Woodbury
 Sturbridge: Taylor Fisher
 Sutton: Sarah Beachman, Joanna Brown, Aliyssa Courville, Casey Hibbard, Jessica McGonagle, Courtney Moscynski, Amanda Moulton, Noah Sullivan
 Uxbridge: Cheryl Blodgett, Matthew Carlson, Antonio Demalia, Abigail Hanscom, Melissa Lozeau, Mayra Marquez, Jake Murray
 Wales: Alexis Coville, Janelle VanHook, Bethany Wright
 Webster: Williams Agyemang, Katelyn Allain, Danielle Baarda, Nicole Banas, Abigail Biernacki, Adrienne Chomes, Alexandra Cowher, Kulubo Darwulo, Melissa DeLuca-Midgette, Sean Flynn, Tess Haddad, Kaylie Hill, Trevor Jutras, Hakim Kasozi, Hannah Waldron, Scarlet Wanjiru, Leekha Williams
 West Brookfield: Emily Barrett, Megan Greenough, Melissa Waddell
 West Upton: Jacob Patzer
 Whitinsville: Julianna Borruso, Jennifer Flanagan, Savannah Louischarles, Nicole Peters, Samira Raad, Allison Salamack, Candice Schadler, Shaylene Silva, Lia Stanley
 Certificate
 Auburn: Kelvin Akyeampong, Zahraa Alshammari, Jacqueline Cetrone, Patrick Fitzgerald, Dylan Francis, Daquan Gooch, Emma Martin, Matti Phaneuf, Cameron Szalay, Jessic de Souza Salazar Lib
 Blackstone: Erin McDonald
 Brookfield: Lorianne Palmer
 Charlton: Lee Cozzens, Kayla Hinkley, Krista Renaud, Maged Samwaeil
 Cherry Valley: Margaret Cyr, Sara Dorsey, Esther Njeri
 Dudley: Yakeydy Calderon, Elizabeth

Catino, Abigail Northrop, Paige Oliver, Crystal Stillman, Katelyn Wambugu
 East Brookfield: Cailin Shea
 East Douglas: Hayden Krasner, Jacob Masi, Trevor Oliver
 Fiskdale: Miriam Henry, Tristan Shaw
 Grafton: Arthur Mahassel, Dilafruz Sullivan
 Holland: Deniella Harwood
 Leicester: Patricia Moraes Recoba
 Milford: Crystal Rivera Melendez, Ryan Shaw
 Millbury: Doris Agyei, Casey Ampagoomian, Alician Berenson, Melissa Cheever, Elizabeth DeWolfe, Ivie Lapointe, Alyssa Newman, Victoria Rondeau
 Millville: Hannah Mullaly
 North Grafton: Ana Hernandez, Lexis Kearin, Holly Martin
 Northbridge: Nathan Postero
 Oxford: Kayla Brodeur, Carolyn Brunelle, Alexander Delgado Casanova, Amanda Listewnik, Brady Parmentier, Hailey Swenson
 South Grafton: Jonathan Toman
 Southbridge: Kandy Alvarado, Angelica Batista, Trisha Bayrouy, Stephanie Boadu, Kelaia Espinoza, Daniel Fuentes, Catherine Hamblin, Rhiannon Hogan, Ayla Osei-Opoku, Mariana Powell, Mayra Ramsey, Eve Robida
 Spencer: Myrnaliz Alvarez-Borges, Courtney Angell, Kyle Paquette, Rachel Perry, Danielle Provencher, Sarah Sefaboteng, Laura Wyne
 Sturbridge: Thomas Celuzza, Dominique Howe, Adam Mazeika
 Sutton: Casey Hibbard, Ricki Maynard, Amanda Moulton
 Uxbridge: Laura Barry, George Kenny, Nicholas Maracle
 Webster: Kristin Ali, Vanessa Baldyga, Natalie Duszak, Ashley Emco, Shelby Fortin, Alexander Fuentes, Isaac Gilliard, Saska Jean Charles, Irene John, Cynthia Johnson, Caitlin Kotarba, Falonne Modjom, Heather Quinn, Hiranya Robles, Reyes Rodriguez, Janice Serrano
 Whitinsville: Dana Clasby, Saima Khan, Savannah Louischarles

Emerson College student Jared Tetreau of Dudley inducted into 2022-2023 Gold Key Honor Society

BOSTON — Emerson College student Jared Tetreau of Dudley is one of ninety-eight seniors and juniors inducted into Emerson's Gold Key Honor Society on April 5 in a ceremony in the Semel Theater located in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Gold Key Honor Society is an interdisciplinary organization founded at Emerson in 1962 to "recognize and encourage outstanding academic achievement." Juniors in the top 5 percent of their class, and seniors in the top 10 percent of their class who have earned at least 48 credits are eligible.

Jared Tetreau is majoring in Media Arts Production and is a member of the Class of 2023.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 4,161 undergraduates and 554 graduate students from across the United States and nearly 70 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, DC, London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. The College has an active network of 51,000+ alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

St. Nicholas to hold yard sale

SOUTHBRIDGE — St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church will hold its Multi-Family Yard Sale on Saturday, June 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (no early birds) on the church grounds, 126 Morris St., Southbridge. Come one, come all. Something for everyone!

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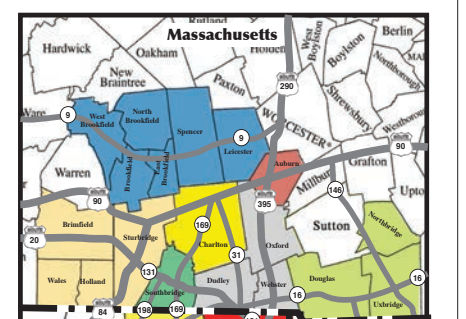
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The Power of open-mindedness

In a world marked by increasing divisions and intolerance, the importance of open-mindedness cannot be overstated. Open-mindedness is not just a desirable quality; it is an essential attribute for both individuals and societies to grow. The willingness to explore new ideas, perspectives, and possibilities is the driving force behind growth, understanding, and peaceful coexistence.

At its core, open-mindedness stands in stark contrast to narrow-mindedness. While the latter shuts out differing opinions and clings stubbornly to preconceived notions, the former opens the floodgates to intellectual advancement. Open-minded individuals recognize the limitations of their knowledge and actively seek to broaden their horizons by engaging with diverse ideas and perspectives. They understand that the world is intricate, and that truth can be found in unexpected places.

An open mind liberates us from the constraints of our own biases and prejudices. It allows us to go beyond the echo chambers of our social circles, where our beliefs are constantly reinforced and seldom challenged. Open-mindedness compels us to question our assumptions, critically evaluate information, and consider alternative viewpoints. This willingness to embrace differing perspectives brings forth empathy, compassion, and a deeper understanding of the human condition.

In today's interconnected world, open-mindedness is more crucial than ever. The rapid advancement of technology has brought individuals from diverse cultures and backgrounds, into closer proximity. Without open-mindedness, these encounters may result in misunderstanding, conflict, and the erosion of society. However, approaching these encounters with open minds allows us to discover commonalities, bridge gaps, and foster mutual understanding.

Open-mindedness also serves as a catalyst for progress. History has shown that many of humanity's greatest discoveries were made by individuals who dared to challenge prevailing wisdom and conventional thinking. By embracing new ideas, open-minded individuals pave the way for creativity, problem-solving, and the advancement of society. It is through open-mindedness that novel solutions emerge, technologies are grown, and uncharted possibilities come to fruition.

Open-mindedness does not imply blind acceptance or the abandonment of critical thinking. Striking a balance between open-mindedness and healthy skepticism is crucial. Open-mindedness does not suggest that all ideas are equally valid or that we should unquestioningly embrace every viewpoint. Instead, it means being willing to entertain diverse perspectives, objectively evaluate them, and draw well-informed conclusions.

In a time when polarization threatens to tear us apart, cultivating open-mindedness should be our collective goal. It requires us to engage in respectful dialogue, even with those whose views we vehemently disagree with. Open-mindedness is not a sign of weakness or indecisiveness; it is a strength that allows us to build bridges and find common ground.

As individuals, we should challenge ourselves to examine our beliefs, confront our biases, and remain receptive to new ideas. We should actively seek out perspectives that differ from our own and engage in meaningful conversations that expand our understanding. We should include ourselves in environments that encourage open-mindedness, where the free exchange of ideas is valued and respected.

Open-mindedness necessitates humility, intellectual curiosity, and a commitment to lifelong learning. By embracing open-mindedness, we expose ourselves to the vast landscape of human knowledge and experience, paving the way for progress, unity, and a brighter, well connected future.

VIEWPOINT

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



BEYOND

THE PEWS

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

"I am the vine, and you are the branches. Anyone who abides in Me, and I in them, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing... As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love." (John 15:5,9)

I think of these verses from the Gospel of John, especially as I see people planting their gardens, caring for their lawns, and beautifying the landscape of their homes. We put forth much effort in giving attention to our properties, but what about our own spiritual lives?

These verses from the Gospel of John are not about vines and branches but point us to the essence of the

The vine and branches

Christian life. Our faith is all about a relationship in which we are connected with God at all times. When we are connected with Him, we find life. When we are cut off from Him, we experience death. We must take care not to forget this relationship with God. He is the source of life! When we separate ourselves from Him, once we cut our branch off from Jesus the vine, then there is only one consequence - the branch will wither and die, just as our souls will grow distant from their Creator and slowly shrivel and waste away.

With these words, Jesus reminds us, nudges us, calls to us, longs for us, and even pursues us each and every

day. He loves us so much that he won't leave us alone. He wants to unite with us. Yet, at the same time He respects our freedom. He comes to us daily in countless ways, gently knocking at the door of our heart, but then waits for us to freely open it up and invite Him in. When we chose to open our heart, He joyously enters in and gladly dwells with us. When we choose to ignore Him, He doesn't get angry or upset, but He simply and patiently waits.

Of course, we must remember that God isn't motivated by any human desire or need. His motivation is pure and simple - He waits for us because of His unconditional

Turn To **BEYOND THE PEWS** page **A15**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Every day is Memorial Day

To the Editor:

As a young boy, the writer of the poem below witnessed the Second World War from beginning to end in the Netherlands. After the war, as a teenage Boy Scout, he assisted at many Memorial Day ceremonies there. The horrific events left an indelible impression, so much so that for him, forever since, "Every Day is Memorial Day."

In March of 1959, he migrated to the USA. The perspective of his younger years is obvious when reading the poem below.

Memorial Day, Anytown, USA.

Now I am on the west side of the Atlantic Ocean
The bugle sounds, veterans salute and reminisce
Images indelible of wounds severe, of many comrades lost.
Of gore and putrid stench, and mutilated bodies.
It all passes my kaleidoscope too,
Again, as I saw it at an early age.
Here they are, weary marchers,
Men in tanks and gliders and GMC's,
or suspended from floating parachutes.
Engineering marvels and bloody sacrifices,
Whence and why? What infinite wherewithal!
Their heroics unsolicited...our fate,
Their victory...our deliverance.
Gratitude and admiration beyond bounds,
A heavy yoke thrown off.

All my life I have searched for a time and place
to vent my heart in thanks to all those wellwilling [sic]
and kind, generous and contributing to a cause not their
own.

Most inspiring...most giving
Most demanding, in remote lands again.
A conflict not of their making, not even of their destiny.
Innocent youth...stalwart men
Energy unbounded...touching openness
Hardened faces...graves uncounted
Far from home and friends and family.

My father, roadside, offering baskets of fruit
to Pete and Jack and Joe and all.
Fruits of the land they just liberated,
Peaches and pears and prunes sweet.
Big smiles in thanks, NEVER forgotten.
Generous but scant reward
for death and misery and deprivation.
Debt that never ever can be repaid!

Thanks, and humble thanks again...

Originally written for Memorial Day 2006

John Vanderaa
Dudley

We have been listening

To the Editor:

To the community of Dudley and the Dudley voters, I write to request your support for an operational override in support of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District. We know that any request to increase taxes is minimally met with skepticism and fully met with "no way" by many.

To begin, we acknowledge that the ballot vote of April 25 sent a strong message of dissent to the hefty override package that included capital, operational and future funding of a stabilization account. In addition, the meetings and forums leading up to the vote of April 25 made it clear that the "ask" was too much and that a request beyond the here and now was problematic. As a result of that feedback, the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District narrowed the request to support the immediate needs of the District. We heard loud and clear that any capital must be removed and stand-alone from the operational request. Many voters stated that we would find their support if we only asked for what we need now and we respect the voter's feedback.

In working with the Town of Dudley, the request for the Shepherd Hill Regional High School Feasibility Study grant program has now moved to a Capital Debt Exclusion for one fiscal year. We further learned that the value will replace current debt at a similar value to have minimal impact on taxes for the one year if approved. Lastly, the grant program with the Massachusetts School Building Authority has a reimbursement portion of the Feasibility Study estimated at 50-59% which is credited back to the Towns of Charlton and Dudley through annual District assessments. For more information, go to our website www.dcrsd.org and you will find a tab in the middle of the home page titled "MSBA for SHRHS."

This presents a here and now operational need for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District. All households have experienced a dramatic increase in the cost of consumables, utilities, and any needed service to support your household. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District is faced with the same dramatic increases to provide school-aged students the services they need and similar opportunities former Dudley-Charlton Regional School District graduates had before them. So, the dilemma in front of us is, how do

we support both, households and schools, without sacrificing either. The feedback we received is what will work right now. For the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District to meet the current needs of our students, we must provide a level services budget. A level services budget requires a request of the voters for an operational override of \$994,283. Our collective efforts are to meet the voter's feedback of addressing the here and now only.

To provide context, our working definition for a level services and level funded budget are as follows: A level services budget for the District is grounded in maintaining the expected student experience academically and through extra-curricular activities such as athletics, performance groups and student clubs. With dramatic increases in fixed costs, a level services budget absorbs much of the fixed cost, \$3.6 Mil for Fiscal Year 2024, while preserving the overall student experience. It is not a perfect math problem, so there will always be budget adjustments even in a level services budget. On the other hand, a level funded budget does not maintain the overall student experience as nominal, and minimal increases to the budget are functionally inadequate to absorb the dramatic fixed cost increases for Fiscal Year 2024. As a result, a level funded budget for Fiscal Year 2024 requires a reduction of \$2 Mil. Again, our here and now Fiscal Year 2024 request of the voters of Dudley is for a level services budget with an operational override of \$994,283.

To that end, without the Town of Dudley operational override for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, we are faced with \$2 Mil in reductions. The main reason is that we are a two-town school district. The assessments are balanced off of each town, so for every lower dollar assessed, the total budget is reduced.

To understand what the reductions will do to the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District, you only have to start with the terms devastating, destructive and, simply, dismantling the educational experience for the students of Dudley and Charlton. To see the recommended reductions please go to our website www.dcrd.org and on the front page you will see a presentation to the School Committee dated May 10. The slides are listed as a Level Funded Budget Plan.

For the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District families, staff and students, we are asking Dudley voters for your support in return for hearing and making the requested adjustments to the school District's operational override. We heard you at our forums and at the ballot box this past April 25, and we hope that you now understand that we were listening and respect your vote. We hope you will support the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District at the Annual Town Meeting, Monday, May 22, at Shepherd Hill Regional High School and at the ballot box June 12.

Respectfully,
Steven M. Lamarche
Superintendent of Schools
Dudley-Charlton Regional School District

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.

Sometimes, fishing is about more than catching fish



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

The net showed its ugly face. Last week, a local angler and his buddy headed out to catch a few haddock. It's not that they did not try! They traveled to their local hot spots without a single fish to take home, after a long day. They were not alone. No one could find the haddock, or even a cod fish, although they cannot be retained! Party boats in the area had the same problem!

The Mass. seabass fishing for recreational anglers opened on May 20, with a daily limit of four fish. It is such a great eating fish, that many anglers will still spend the time and money to catch a few to take home for the dinner table. Of course, it is not just about catching fish. The time spent on the saltwater with friends and family is priceless, and if you get on the water just before sunrise, you will see some amazing picturesque views from Mother Nature. You do not see views like that at your local fish market!

This week's picture of an angler with a two-pound calico bass (crappie) reminds me of my earlier days.

Turn To **OUTDOORS** page **A14**



Courtesy

This week's picture shows George Spitz of Webster with a two-pound Calico bass taken at Webster lake! Nice fish!

A READER EXCHANGE OF HELPFUL HINTS AND HANDY TIPS

Tips to Keep Garden Flowers Fresh

Many a dreary winter's afternoon has been brightened by the thought of the first flowers of the season.



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

After months of planning and plotting a flower garden, few simple pleasures compare to a bed of brilliant blooms.

Looking ahead to a garden of blossoms, this week's column offers some tips and tricks to keep those precious flowers fresher longer.

A flower plucked fresh from the garden is a day brightener, but keeping the flower fresh for as long as possible requires a bit of forethought. Experts agree the most essential factor affecting flower life is the quality of the water. Read on for some eye opening facts:

Most people simply plopp fresh flowers in a vase full of tap water. But cut flowers require clean, pure water, and ordinary tap water may not be suitable. Drinking water from a public water supply can contain high levels of minerals, which can block the flower stems, preventing water uptake. In addition, soft water is usually high in sodium, which is toxic to some flowers such as carnations and roses. Also, some municipalities add fluoride to water, which is harmful to gladioli and freesia.

No matter what your water source, if you haven't had your water tested, but suspect it isn't good quality, the best bet would be to use distilled or bottled water for your fresh flowers.

Another factor of flower-friendly water is temperature. Experts recommend warm water for most freshly cut flowers. Warm water contains less air than cold water and the stems will take the liquid in quicker, resulting in faster hydration.

The cleanliness of the water is yet another factor, as bacteria and fungi grow rapidly in vase water, and can block the flower stems from soaking in needed water. Vases and containers should always be washed with a weak bleach and water mixture between uses.

For optimum flower life, water should be replaced every third day with the addition of an appropriate preservative.

Florists usually recommend commercial powdered preservatives to prolong the life of cut flowers, and the packets are handy and easy to use. The active ingredients in these solutions usually contain three elements: a sugar to nourish the flowers, a biocide to inhibit bacteria growth and an acidifier to lower pH. However, if you prefer to go the homemade route, the following solution can be easily concocted:

To one gallon of water add a twelve ounce can of Sprite, or a similar lemon lime soft drink. The sugar in the soda provides food for the flowers and the citric acid works to lower the pH of the water. Also add a tablespoon of chlorine bleach to the gallon solution. The bleach will serve as an antibacterial to keep the water clean.

From Garden to Vase: Proper cutting, trimming and prepping is crucial to flower longevity, and experts tout several "golden rules" to increase the lifetime of fresh flowers:

It's important to harvest garden flowers when the sun is down, typically late evening or very early morning. Flowers are best for cutting then, as they are well hydrated and contain the highest carbohydrate reserves. When harvesting garden flowers, bring a bucket of water into the garden and cut stems with sharp garden shears, immediately placing each flower into the bucket of water.

Once inside the house, recut the stems. Using a sharp knife, cut stems under water, then place them into a holding vase or bucket with water and floral preservative. To do this properly, you will need a sharp knife and a dishpan or pot filled with warm water. Hold the stem under water and cut off at least two inches of the stem at an angle. The cut is done under water to prevent air from entering the cut. After cutting, lift flower straight up and out of the tub, ensuring a droplet of water on the cut stem. Then place into the holding water with preservative. For best results, allow garden flowers to set in the solution for about eight hours prior to arranging in a vase.

What should you expect from your investments?

To help achieve your financial goals, you may need to invest in the financial markets throughout your life. However, at times your investment expectations may differ from actual returns, triggering a variety of emotions. So, what are reason-



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
.....
DENNIS
ANTONOPOULOS

able expectations to have about your investments?

Ideally, you hope that your investment portfolio will eventually help you

meet your goals, both your short-term ones, such as a cross-country vacation, and the long-term ones, such as a comfortable retirement. But your expectations may be affected by several factors, including the following:

Misunderstanding – Various factors in the economy and the financial markets trigger different reactions

in different types of investments — so you should expect different results. When you own stocks, you can generally expect greater price volatility in the short term. Over time, though, the "up" and "down" years tend to average out. When you own bonds, you can expect less volatility than individual

Turn To **FINANCIAL** page **A16**

Managing the heat of hot peppers

Don't worry if the rest of your family does not appreciate the spicy heat your favorite hot peppers add to entrees, beverages and desserts. Proper pepper selection, care and preparation can help you turn down the heat as needed.

Hot peppers' spicy heat is measured in Scoville Heat Units named for Wilbur Scoville. The level of heat was originally determined by a panel of individual tasters. Chili peppers were ground and added to a sugar-water solution. The solution was



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

continually diluted until the panelist found the solution no longer burned their mouth. Each pepper was assigned a number based on the amount of sugar-water solution needed to reach that point. Today a more accurate less subjective high-performance liquid chromatography method can be used for measuring the pungency of hot peppers.

Poblano and Siracha rate between 1,000 to 2,500, jalapenos up to 8,000, cayenne can peak at 50,000, habaneros up to 350,000 and one of the hottest, the ghost pepper, at as much as 2,200,000 units. If you like the citrusy flavor of habaneros but not the heat, try the All-America Selections winner Roulette.

Ornamental peppers are edible as well as pretty. Most rate anywhere from 10,000 to 50,000 Scoville units. Chilly Chili ornamental pepper produces an abundance of attractive yellow,



Courtesy — All-America Solutions

Roulette peppers have the citrusy flavor of habaneros but not the heat.

orange and red upright fruit on 10 to 12 inch plants. As the name suggests, they have almost no heat. Mix with flowers for decorative displays in containers and garden beds.

Peppers grow and produce best when day temperatures are 70 to 80 degrees, and night temperatures are 60 to 70 degrees Fahrenheit. Cold, heat and drought

are the most common cause of blossom drop, misshapen fruit, and a poor harvest.

Use a hand pruner or garden snips to harvest peppers without damaging the plants. Harvest most hot peppers when fully mature and red for the strongest flavor. Green chili and jalapeno peppers are harvested when green. And some like jalapeno, habanero and

Anaheim, are hot whether harvested when green or red. When your summer is filled with long hot days hot peppers tend to be even hotter.

Avoid hot surprises when cooking by labeling hot peppers when growing, harvesting and storing them. Many sweet and hot pepper varieties look similar and confusing the two could be unpleasant. Just keep a glass of milk handy in case you need to neutralize the sting.

Turn down the heat, if needed or desired, when preparing your favorite recipes. Since most of the capsaicin, which gives hot peppers their heat, is in

Turn To **GARDENING** page **A14**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The math speaks for itself

To the Editor:

I'd like to clarify the latest math behind the proposed Dudley Prop 2 ½ Override that will be on the ballot June 12.

The permanent proposed increase is 18.11 percent, nowhere near 2 ½ percent that most people think. If the second ballot question which does not explicitly state "1 year capital expenditure," passes, it too can legally become a permanent increase regardless of what any "Fact Sheets" state, making the proposed permanent increase 21.25 percent. Note that Fact Sheets posted on the Dudley Town Web site are not legal documents, and the contents have changed multiple times.

The current tax rate is \$10.16 per thousand of assessed value.

The proposed permanent tax rate is \$12 per thousand of assessed value, an increase of \$1.84 per thousand.

\$1.84 divided by \$10.16 = 18.11 percent permanent increase to the tax base.

Adding 32 cents for a Feasibility Study will make the total requested increase \$2.16 per thousand.

\$2.15 divided by \$10.16 = 21.25 percent. The ballot question does not explicitly state "1 year capital expenditure." Therefore, it can legally be construed as a permanent increase. Other towns in Massachusetts have included the duration and "capital expenditure" on their ballot questions. Dudley can too.

To determine what this means to you, refer to a recent tax bill for your assessed value. Divide that by 1,000 and then multiply by \$12 of the override alone passes. Multiply by \$12.32 if both ballot questions pass.

Everyone's cost of living has increased. Electricity rates, heating fuel, gasoline, groceries, homeowners' insurance, car insurance, health insurance premiums, phone, cable, etc. Salaries or those living on fixed income have not. Residents have had to make hard choices to live within their means. It is time the Town of Dudley and the schools did the same. Neither has made any reductions since their initial budget.

Remember to vote June 12 at the town hall between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Robin Watson
Dudley

Positively speaking!

Toby Moore

Late bloomers

Do good things come to those who wait? I don't know; I guess it all depends! Growing up, they said my age group belonged to the microwave generation—impatient, wanting everything 'popcorn quick.' That made it especially hard when I couldn't accomplish my dreams instantly.

My journey in competitive swimming began when I was only five-year-old. I remember those early practices where the promise of a tootsie roll at the end of each lap was my only motivation to keep going. However, as I paddled through the years, my love for the sport took root, growing with me from Junior high to College.

I wasn't always the fastest, and to soften the blow of losing a race, my dad often told me, "You're a late bloomer, Toby." Giving me hope that one day, I would attain the victory.

A late bloomer is a phrase he used to describe a person who fulfills their potential later than expected; they often have talents that aren't visible to others initially.

My dedication was unwavering as I continued, but my speed in the pool could have been more impressive, par-

ticularly towards the end of high school and into College. I wasn't the slowest, but my gold medal was often out of reach. I often took solace in the fact that "I'm a late bloomer." Just like my dad said.

In the lull between high school and College, I stumbled upon triathlons. This thrilling combination of endurance sports had my heart racing even before I hit the starting line. I knew I was no longer a late bloomer and was delighted to win first place in my age group!

My victory could have been more impressive after discovering I was the only one racing in my age group, winning by default. It turned out I was still a late bloomer.

When I finally let go of the notion that I was going to be a professional swimmer, it initially felt like an admission of defeat, but it was really a recalibration of direction.

While I could feel my ego taking a hit, always in the back of my mind, I heard my dad's voice, "It's okay, Toby, you're just a late bloomer." A course change isn't about accepting failure but acknowledging the many avenues to the finish line.

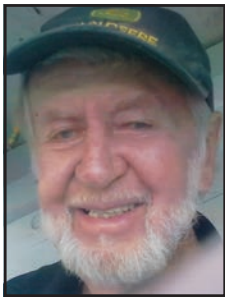
Not hitting it big in the

Turn To **POSITIVELY** page **A16**

Turn To **HINT** page **A16**

OBITUARIES

Harvey A. Allard, Jr., 95



THOMPSON, CT - Harvey A. "Junior" Allard, Jr., 95, died Saturday, May 20, 2023 in UMass/Memorial Healthcare at Harrington in Southbridge, MA.

He leaves his wife of 57 years, Sylvia M. (Brunnett) Allard; 6 children, Ronald A. Allard and his wife Leanne of North Grosvenordale, Nancy Bonnette and her husband Lawrence of Texas, Karen Dennis of Thompson, Tina Boutilette and her companion Billy of New Hampshire, Harvey A. Allard, III and his wife Michelle of Dudley, MA and Jonathan P. Allard of Thompson; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren 3 sisters, Constance Chenard, Lucille Pikora and Letha Cacciapouti, all of Webster, MA; and many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by 3 sons, Roland J. Allard, Raymond J. Petrunia and Steven P. Petrunia, by his brother

Harold "Harry" Allard, by 2 sisters Shirley Arel and Anita R. Socha, by his grandson, Christopher Petrunia, and by his great-grandson, Bryce W. Petrunia.

He was born on August 31, 1927 in Webster, MA, a son of Harvey A. Allard, Sr. and Anna (Breault) Allard and has lived in Thompson since 1965.

He was an army veteran of the Korean Conflict. Mr. Allard began working for Towne Paving in 1945; he later bought the business which he and his wife owned and operated until their retirement in 2010.

Junior was a member of Tri-State Baptist Church in North Grosvenordale.

He enjoyed working, spending time outdoors and going dancing every Saturday night with Sylvia.

His funeral will be held on Saturday, May 27 at 11:00 AM in Tri-State Baptist Church, 386 Quinebaug Road, North Grosvenordale, with Pastor Troy Masterson officiating. Burial will be in East Thompson Cemetery with military honors. Visitation will be held from 8:30 to 10:30 AM in Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster on Saturday, prior to the service. Donations in his name may be made to Tri-State Baptist Church, 386 Quinebaug Road, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255. www.scanlonfs.com



He leaves his wife of 57 years, Sylvia M. (Brunnett) Allard; 6 children, Ronald A. Allard and his wife Leanne of North Grosvenordale, Nancy Bonnette and her husband Lawrence of Texas, Karen Dennis of Thompson, Tina Boutilette and her companion Billy of New Hampshire, Harvey A. Allard, III and his wife Michelle of Dudley, MA and Jonathan P. Allard of Thompson; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and several great-great grandchildren 3 sisters, Constance Chenard, Lucille Pikora and Letha Cacciapouti, all of Webster, MA; and many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by 3 sons, Roland J. Allard, Raymond J. Petrunia and Steven P. Petrunia, by his brother

William "Gary" DeNardis age 72

Gary DeNardis age 72 passed away peacefully on May 16th surrounded by his loving wife and family after a brief illness.

He was a lifelong resident of Dudley. He was born on Sept 23rd 1950 in Worcester MA. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 1968.

Gary served in the Navy from 1969 to 1973 and was a Vietnam Veteran. He was employed by the Town of Webster Sewer Dept for many years.

Gary's joy in life was being surrounded by his children, grandchildren and extended family. He enjoyed gardening, building bird houses, playing cards, visiting his sister in NY, family on Cape Cod and just sitting on the deck having coffee with his "lovey".

Gary is survived by his loving wife Pamela Jarsoz DeNardis, his daughters Mary Baer and husband Michael,

Darlene Soto and husband Rudy,

Wendy Steriti and husband Steve, his sons William Gendreau and wife Shannon and Nicholas Gendreau. His eight grandchildren Antonio, Tyler,

Kayla, Kevin, Caitlin, Reese, Ethan and Evan that he adored. His three sisters Karen Apollonio and husband Frank of Cold Spring NY,

Laurie Reynolds of Sturbridge, and Dee DeNardis-Ehler from Illinois along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He is predeceased by his parents Nancy (Darling) and Robert MacArthur Jr, brother Robert III and sister Roberta.

There will be a service to honor his life at 10am Friday June 2nd at First Congregational Church of Dudley 135 Center Rd Dudley MA

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Boston Children's Hospital.



Grade 5 (left to right): Mackenzie Sherman, Gabe Costa, Kohen Garney, Ethan Glasberg, Richard LaMountain, Deron Richardson



Grade 6 (left to right): Isabel Hernandez, Chloe Lavallee, Brianna Judge, Malayna Viera (not pictured), Agnes Malloy, Caleb Nyombi



Grade 7 (left to right): Kolbi Hodsdson-Beurman, Colin Joyce, Gwenyth Auger, Leah Newkirk, Krystiana Sobocinski, Lillian Burke, Blake Curboy



Grade 8 (left to right): Finnian Keefe, Marie Consentino, Julian Ruiz, Zachary Sirard, Anthony Lamboy, Mia Prefontaine

Courtesy

OMS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Oxford Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month.

Friday's Child



Maxum "Max"

Hi! My name is Maxum and I like to build with LEGOS and try new things!

Maxum, who likes to go by Max, is an energetic and creative child. Upon meeting him, Max can present as a shy and quiet child, but once he gets comfortable, he opens up and engages easily. Max likes to build with LEGOS and play video games. He is very active and enjoys playing outside. He loves to play sports and has a great arm! Max likes to draw and watch superhero movies.

Max attends a collaborative school and has special education supports to assist him at school. He is doing well and making progress in school. Max has a lot of curiosity and likes to learn and try new things. Max enjoys playing with his peers and is able to make friends easily.

Max would do best in a home that is adventurous, playful, and compassionate. He has two sisters that he would like to maintain a relationship with. Max currently visits with his birth parents four times a year and per his open adoption agreement will visit with his parents two times a year once the adoption is finalized.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6670>

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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Leo Pepin Jr. • Chantelle Pepin



LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Gertrude Votour aka Gertrude M. Votour to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Liberty Home Equity Solutions, Inc., dated July 26, 2019 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60799, Page 211 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage PHH Mortgage Corporation is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Liberty Home Equity Solutions, Inc. to PHH Mortgage Corporation dated October 7, 2021 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 66300, Page 264, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 273 Bryn Mawr Avenue, Auburn, MA 01501 will be sold at a Public Auction at 9:00 AM on June 8, 2023, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract of land situated on what was formerly the northerly side of Merriam Street, in Auburn, Massachusetts, and is now the southerly line of Bryn Mawr Ave., bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point in the southerly line of said Merriam Street, formerly of Worcester and Southbridge Railway location and now Bryn Mawr Ave., and land now or formerly of Oscar Hultgren; THENCE southerly on said Hultgren land two hundred ninety-six (296) feet more or less to land now or formerly of Anstice N. Sherley; THENCE westerly of said Sherley land ninety-eight (98) feet more or less to a point at land now or formerly of Carl A. Lund et ux; THENCE northerly on said Lund land two hundred sixty-nine (269) feet more or less to southerly line of said Merriam, formerly Worcester and Southbridge Street Railway location; THENCE easterly on said Merriam Street now Bryn Mawr Ave., about one hundred forty-six (146) feet to the point of beginning. There are excepted from the foregoing the tracts of land indicated in Deed recorded in Book 4658, Page 93.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 4658, Page 93.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

PHH Mortgage Corporation
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Votour, Estate of Gertrude, 22-041028
May 12, 23023
May 19, 2023
May 26, 2023

A.C. 92A
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
23E0034PP
WORCESTER, SS.
PROBATE COURT

To Ronald Guerard of Graham in the State of North Carolina and to all other interested persons.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Linda Welton of Charlton in the County of Worcester representing that she hold as tenants in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in North Oxford in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows:

The land consisting of Lots #5 and #6, together with buildings thereon and all privileges and appurtenances

thereto belonging, located in the Town of Oxford, County of Worcester, Massachusetts, on the northerly side of a private road, as shown on a plan of lots in North Oxford, Massachusetts, owned by Edmond F. Guerard and Elmire Guerard, surveyed May 31, 1941 by Walter W. Brown, bounded and described as follows:

LOT #5
BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northerly side of a private road, said point running S. 77°W. one hundred seventy-four(174.0) feet from the intersection of the northerly line of said private way with the westerly line of Leicester Street;
THENCE S. 77° West by the northerly line of said private road seventy-two (72.0) feet to an iron pipe in the southeasterly corner of Lot #6 on the said plan;

THENCE N. 12°W by Lot #6, one hundred thirty-seven and eighty-five hundredths (137.85) feet to a stone wall at land now or formerly of one Melvina M. Cormier;
THENCE N 80°57' E by said stone wall and Cormier land, eighty-two .and five-tenth (82.5) feet to an iron pipe at Lot #1

THENCE S 7°15' E, by Lots #1 and #2 on said plan, one hundred thirty-five and seventy-five hundredths (135.75) feet to the northerly line of the private road and the point or beginning. CONTAINING 10,540 square feet approximately.

Lot#6
BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of the tract to be conveyed at an iron-pipe driven in the ground on the northerly line of a private road and said pipe also being the southwesterly corner of other land of the grantors and is located two hundred forty-six (246) feet westerly, measured along the northerly line of said private road, from the westerly line of Leicester Street;

THENCE from said pipe, by the northerly line of said private road, South 86° 58' West, one hundred eight-seven and twenty-three hundredths (187.23) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground of the grantors;

THENCE by said land of the grantors, North 3°02' West, one hundred forty-three and one-tenth (143.1) feet to the center of a stone wall at an iron pipe and at land owned by Melvina M. Cormier;

THENCE by said Cormier land, by the center of the wall, South 83 °38' East, seventy-nine and twenty-three-hundredths (79.23) feet to and angle in the wall and North 80°57' East, eighty-eight and nine-tenth (88.9) feet to iron pipe set in the wall and at the land of grantors;

THENCE by land of the grantors, South 12° East, one hundred thirty-seven and eighty-five-hundredths (137.85) feet to point of beginning.

CONTAINING 23,775 sq. ft. or .545 acre
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD to the said Frederick Guerard and Mary Guerard, husband and wife, as TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY, and not as tenants in common.

With rights to use water from the spring of the grantors' premises, which spring is located across the street from the herein conveyed premises. TOGETHER with right to pass and repass over the private road adjoining the above conveyed premises.

setting forth that her desires that – all – the aforesaid described part – of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than \$125,000.00 dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the Twenty-Seventh day of June 2023, the return date of this citation.
Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-eighth day of April 2023.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
May 19, 2023
May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Patricia A. O'Keefe to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for New Penn Financial, LLC, dated September 8, 2016 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56000, Page 173, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated February 11, 2022, and recorded with said Worcester

County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67347, Page 261, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for New Penn Financial, LLC, its successors and assigns to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on July 10, 2020, in Book No. 62765, at Page 196

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 4:00 PM on June 16, 2023, on the mortgaged premises located at 29 Park Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:
ALL CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON OF EVERY NATURE AND DESCRIPTION AND ALL THE PRIVILEGES AND APPURTENANCES THERE-TO BELONGING, SITUATED IN THE TOWN OF WEBSTER, WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF SOUTH SLATER STREET, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT A STAKE ON THE EASTERLY SIDE OF SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET AND AT LAND OF ONE CLIFFORD D. HALL;

THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG SAID HALL LAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) FEET TO A STAKE AT LAND OF ONE TOOMEY;

THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG LAND OF SAID TOOMEY, SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO A STAKE AT LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF JOSEPH A. PATENAUDE AND ARTHUR CHOINIÈRE;

THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG THE SAID LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OF JOSEPH A. PATENAUDE AND ARTHUR CHOINIÈRE, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) FEET TO A STAKE AT SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET;

THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG SAID SOUTH SLATER STREET SEVENTY-FIVE (75) FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
PARCEL ID: 26-A-56-0

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41406, Page 79.

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

TERMS OF SALE:

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

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

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

23139

May 19, 2023

May 26, 2023

June 2, 2023

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to M.G.L. Ch. 106 § 9-601 and in compliance with the terms of a certain mortgage given by Elite Rivers LLC to New Silver Lending, LLC dated May 31, 2019, recorded with the Worcester South Registry of Deeds in Book 60493, Page 323, which mortgage was assigned to AlphaFlow WH, LLC by Assignment dated June 10, 2019, recorded in Book 60781, Page 100, as affected by Corrective Assignment recorded in Book 68873, Page 266; further assigned to AlphaFlow, Inc. by Assignment dated July 24, 2019, recorded in Book 60823, Page 138; further assigned to JAFW by Assignment dated July 24, 2019, recorded in Book 60823, Page 142; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society,

FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust VII-B by Assignment dated November 29, 2022, recorded in Book 68873, Page 274, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM, on 27th day of June 2023, at the mortgaged premises described and known as 25 Tanyard Road, Dudley, Massachusetts described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract of land situated in said Dudley on the southwesterly side of Tanyard Road in the Town of Dudley, County of Worcester, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the Southeasterly corner thereof at an iron pin on the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road, said iron pin being at the northeasterly corner of land owned by the inhabitants of the Town of Dudley;

THENCE South 17 degrees 45' West by land of said inhabitants of the Town of Dudley for a distance of one hundred (100.00) feet to an iron pin at land of Nichols College;

THENCE North 54 degrees 00' West by land of said Nichols College, for a distance of one hundred and seven hundredths (100.07) feet to an iron pin on the southerly line of a thirty-three (33) foot right of way and land of said Nichols College;

THENCE North 36 degrees 00' East by the Southeasterly line of said right of way for a distance of one hundred sixty-seven and sixty-three hundredths (167.63) feet to an iron pin on the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road;

THENCE South 7 degrees 39' East by the southwesterly line of said Tanyard Road for a distance of one hundred one and three hundredths (101.03) feet to the point of beginning.

Together with a right of way thirty-three (33) feet in width northwesterly of and parallel to the third (3rd) course described above.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation.

Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the offices of Murphy & Lupan, P.A., 5 Commonwealth Road, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY,

FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY-Present holder of said mortgage,

By its attorney,

Michael J. Murphy

Murphy & Lupan, P.A.

5 Commonwealth Road

Natick, MA 01760

Tel: (508) 650-9252

May 26, 2023

June 2, 2023

June 9, 2023

SPORTS

Tantasqua at the top of SWCL girls' track and field team championship

Warriors combine for six wins, while Uxbridge's Cahill tops three events

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — Oxford High was again host to the Southern Worcester County League girls' track and field championships, which took place under nice — albeit at times windy — conditions on Tuesday, May 16.

Tantasqua Regional won the team title while accumulating 131 points. Uxbridge High was next best at 113 points. The Warriors (six) and Spartans (five) combined to win 11 of the 16 events.

The individuals who placed in the top six in each event earned points toward the team total, with places one-six being awarded 10, 8, 6, 4, 2 and 1 points.

The results are as follows:

Team Standings

1. Tantasqua, 131 points
2. Uxbridge, 113
3. Auburn, 55
4. David Prouty, 42
5. Millbury, 40
6. Grafton, 38
7. Oxford, 35
8. Leicester, 23
9. Quaboag, 10
10. Northbridge, 9

Individual Results

- Shot Put**
1. Lily Brayman, Uxbridge, 32-10.50
 2. Maeve Whittemore, Auburn, 32-00.50
 3. Payton Banfill, Oxford, 30-11.00
 4. Emilee Larson, David Prouty, 28-00.50
 5. Jewelisa Richardson, Oxford, 25-10.50
 6. Nina Dykas, Leicester, 25-05.75
- Discus Throw**
1. Nina Dykas, Leicester, 86-09
 2. Gianna Noyes, Uxbridge, 84-11
 3. Emma Robertson, Oxford, 80-07
 4. Maeve Whittemore, Auburn, 80-02
 5. Milla Mace, Uxbridge, 74-06
 6. Isabelle Alden, Tantasqua, 71-11
- Long Jump**
1. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 16-05.00
 2. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn, 15-07.00
 3. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 15-05.00
 4. Keoni Savoie, Tantasqua, 15-01.00
 5. Tess Chevalier, Tantasqua, 14-06.00
 6. Lili Shiers, Tantasqua, 14-05.00
- Triple Jump**
1. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 34-02.50



Nick Ethier
Auburn's Katherine DeFosse leaps into the air during the long jump event.

2. Kendall Gilmore, Uxbridge, 34-00.50
3. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 33-00.25
4. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 32-00.50
5. Ava Chevalier, Tantasqua, 32-00.25
6. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 31-09.50

High Jump

1. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 5-02
2. Lili Shiers, 4-08
3. Bella Grover, Quaboag, 4-06
4. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 4-06
5. Katie Riley, Tantasqua, 4-06
6. Sydney Vyskocil, Grafton, 4-04

Javelin Throw

1. Milla Mace, Uxbridge, 90-01
2. Gianna Noyes, Uxbridge, 81-06
3. Kadienne Patterson, Leicester, 81-05
4. Hannah Irish, Millbury, 77-08
5. Jorelys Ignacio, David Prouty, 75-02
6. Emma Robertson, Oxford, 74-02

Two-Mile Run

1. Cameron Davis, Oxford, 12:04.62
2. Sabrina Tivedo, Uxbridge, 13:45.08
3. Haley Courtney, Tantasqua, 14:06.89
4. Rose Winston, Millbury, 14:10.49
5. Jezlyn Easo, Grafton, 14:15.94
6. Danielle Chrabaszcz, Northbridge, 14:51.13



Nick Ethier
With her teammates cheering her on, Lily Picchioni of Bartlett races around the track in the 400-meter dash.

100-Meter Hurdles

1. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 15.41
2. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn, 15.57
3. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 16.67
4. Katie Riley, Tantasqua, 17.35
5. Jordan Patterson, Leicester, 18.16
6. Annie Maynard, Oxford, 19.12

100-Meter Dash

1. Keoni Savoie, Tantasqua, 12.68
2. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 12.95
3. Tess Chevalier, Tantasqua, 13.58
4. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 13.75
5. Eunice Kinsumba, Leicester, 14.02
6. Emily Moreau, Grafton, 14.14

One-Mile Run

1. Tessa Kline, Tantasqua, 5:34.02
2. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 5:41.41
3. Emily Flauto, Northbridge, 6:14.49
4. Parker Tunley, Quaboag, 6:15.73
5. Eabha Twohig-Mann, Uxbridge, 6:29.59
6. Wren Curewitz, Auburn, 6:37.48

4x100-Meter Relay

1. Tantasqua, 53.63
2. Uxbridge, 55.81
3. Grafton, 56.00
4. David Prouty, 56.21
5. Auburn, 57.88
6. Oxford, 58.18

400-Meter Dash

1. Allie Shrayner, Grafton, 1:02.02



Nick Ethier
Oxford's Caelynn Harty partakes in the 100-meter hurdles event.

2. Kendall Gilmore, Uxbridge, 1:02.08
3. Lili Shiers, Tantasqua, 1:04.78
4. Ava Marcucci, Tantasqua, 1:04.86
5. Bridget Kennedy, Grafton, 1:05.01
6. Grace Bujak, Leicester, 1:06.17

400-Meter Hurdles

1. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 1:08.73
2. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn, 1:12.95
3. Claire Godek, Tantasqua, 1:16.10
4. Maeve Croucher, Grafton, 1:16.90
5. Maryah Moldrow, Millbury, 1:21.89
6. Riya Dalal, Grafton, 1:22.33

800-Meter Run

1. Molly Hilditch, Auburn, 2:26.88
2. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 2:32.79
3. Olivia Magierowski, Tantasqua, 2:38.24
4. Cameron Davis, Oxford, 2:39.33
5. Alexis Nordman, Auburn, 2:46.91
6. Emmalyn Romano, Uxbridge, 2:52.05

200-Meter Dash

1. Keoni Savoie, Tantasqua, 26.25
2. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 26.71
3. Ava Chevalier, Tantasqua, 27.95
4. Kendall Gilmore, Uxbridge, 28.54
5. Allie Shrayner, Grafton, 28.66
6. Bridget Kennedy, Grafton, 28.68

4x400-Meter Relay

1. Tantasqua, 4:33.33
2. Grafton, 4:55.54
3. Millbury, 5:02.25
4. Auburn, 5:10.62
5. Northbridge, 5:19.57
6. Leicester, 5:21.28

Track and field season comes to a close for Bartlett girls

Congratulations to the following 2022-2023 Bartlett High girls' track and field team members for achieving their personal best times at the Southern

Worcester County League championships on Tuesday, May 16 at Oxford High: Lily Picchioni (400 meters), Naomi Orelie (200 meters),

Olivia Johnson (200 meters), and Alexianna D'Amore (200 meters). All members (Ariana Frink-McCluskey, Olivia Johnson, Lily

Picchioni, Ariel Tapia and Tessa Hochadel, Christina King, Janelle Noel, Desirae Boma, Alexianna D'Amore, Annalissa Krasnecky, Naomi Orelie, Tais

Tapia and Tessa Venturini) worked very hard this season. The coaches wish the seniors success as they graduate.

LEGALS

LEGALS

continued from page A11

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 89-91 Slater Street, Webster, Massachusetts
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Kristen Ann Piskator to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for E Mortgage Management, LLC d/b/a EMM Financial its successors and assigns and now held by AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, said mortgage dated March 22, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60181, Page 117, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated March 27, 2020, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 62110, Page 237, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on June 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land in said Webster, being a certain tract or parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated on the southwesterly side of Slater Street, in said Webster and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stake driven into the ground on the southwesterly line of said Slater Street

at Lot #48 as designated on a plan hereinafter mentioned, and being the most easterly angle of the tract hereby conveyed; Thence southwesterly one hundred nineteen and three tenths (119.3) feet by said Lot #48 to a stake in the ground at land of the Town of Webster;
Thence westerly ninety (90) feet by said land of the Town of Webster to a stake in the ground at Lot #28; Thence northeasterly seventy-eight and six tenths (78.6) feet by said Lot #28 to a stake in the ground at Lot #46;
Thence deflecting to the right and extending northeasterly a distance of ninety-six (96) feet by said Lot #46 to a stake in the ground on the southwesterly line of said Slater Street;
Thence with an included angle of 86 degrees 50' and extending southeasterly ninety-two (92) feet by said Slater Street to the point of beginning.
Being Lot #47 as shown on a Plan in Sub-Division showing properties of Slater Mills, Inc. and Slater Co., Inc., Webster, Mass., drawn by B.A. Wakefield, Eng. Dated April. 1935 and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 85, Plan 37.
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 March 22, 2019, and recorded in Book 60181, Page 114 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

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.
TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a 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 by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.
Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road, Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886
Attorney for AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200 MLG File No.: 22-03202
May 26, 2023
June 2, 2023
June 9, 2023

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 23 SM 001856
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Judith A. Bartlett

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*)
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 25 Mount Pleasant Street, given by **Judith A. Bartlett to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.**, dated March 17, 2006, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38575, Page 240, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 6/19/2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 5/2/2023
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
May 26, 2023

SPORTS

SWCL boys' track and field team championship goes to Uxbridge

Spartans' Ross and Caso double winners, along with Auburn's Papierski and Quaboag's Stevens

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — A colder and windier afternoon from a day before when Oxford High played host to the girls on the track, the Southern Worcester County League boys' track and field championships were held back in Oxford on Wednesday, May 17.

Uxbridge High won the team championship, accruing 87 points, just a half-point higher than second place Grafton High. The Spartans won six of the 16 events, while the Gators topped just one.

The top six finishers in each event scored points for their team (first place got 10 points, second place 8, third place 6, fourth place 4, fifth place two and sixth place 1).

The results are as follows:

Team Standings

1. Uxbridge, 87 points
2. Grafton, 86.5
3. Auburn, 77
4. Tantasqua, 66.5
5. Millbury, 46
6. Southbridge, 34
7. Leicester, 29
8. Quaboag, 24
9. Northbridge, 21
10. Oxford, 20
11. Bartlett, 5

Individual Results

Shot Put



Nick Ethier

Garrett Papierski of Auburn releases the shot put 46 feet, 1 inch, winning the event in the process.

1. Garrett Papierski, Auburn, 46-01.00
2. Ian Gahan, Northbridge, 40-02.00
3. Dominic Hammond, Auburn, 38-04.50
4. Chris Talbert, Millbury, 38-01.50
5. Aidan Diamond, Oxford, 37-11.25
6. Nate Noyes, Uxbridge, 37-08.50

Discus Throw

1. Garrett Papierski, Auburn, 133-11
2. Jorge Lopez, Southbridge, 119-08
3. Ian Gahan, Northbridge, 110-10
4. Jullian Rosenburg, Uxbridge, 106-07



Nick Ethier

Erik Manilut of Bartlett crosses the finish line in the 100-meter dash.

5. Dominic Scichilone, Northbridge, 103-11
6. Johnatan Miranda, Southbridge, 102-08

Long Jump

1. Owen Stevens, Quaboag, 20-06.00
2. Luis Gonzalez, Southbridge, 19-05.50
3. Gavin Hallfelder, Uxbridge, 19-03.25
4. Nicholas St. George, Grafton, 19-01.75
5. Brett Morgan, Oxford, 18-07.50
6. Anthony Cintron, Auburn, 18-07.50

Triple Jump

1. Luis Gonzalez, Southbridge, 40-03.50
2. Kweku Akese, Auburn, 39-09.50
3. Calvary Jamoko, Grafton, 39-03.25
4. Erik Manilut, Bartlett, 36-03.50
5. Jemil Jalloh, Millbury, 36-03.50



Nick Ethier

Oxford's Robbie Fisher lets the javelin fly out of his right hand.

6. Max Brayman, Uxbridge, 36-01.00

High Jump

1. Owen Stevens, Quaboag, 5-10
2. Anthony Phillip, Millbury, 5-08
3. Hunter Senior, Leicester, 5-08
4. Gavin Hallfelder, Uxbridge, 5-06
5. Thatcher Sweeney, Uxbridge, 5-06
- T6. Bryce Tessier, Tantasqua, 5-04
- T6. Jackson Shea, Grafton, 5-04

Javelin Throw

1. Derek Plowman, Tantasqua, 146-02
2. Cameron Murphy, Tantasqua, 131-04
3. Jason Bein, Millbury, 127-07
4. Aidan VanArsdelan, Oxford, 119-03
5. Jack Ledbetter, Leicester, 119-02
6. Ryan Gilbert, Grafton, 116-08

Two-Mile Run

1. Aidan Ross, Uxbridge, 9:33.24
2. Luke Herren, Grafton, 10:14.44
3. James Bernard, Uxbridge, 10:35.01
4. James Segatore, Tantasqua, 10:47.09
5. Jason Fournier, Leicester, 10:49.35
6. Max Deary, Uxbridge, 10:51.22

110-Meter Hurdles

1. Nolan Charbonneau, Millbury, 15.91
2. Cameron McNally, Auburn, 16.42
3. Avant Fitzpatrick, Tantasqua, 16.47
4. Cooper White, Leicester, 16.67
5. Kweku Akese, Auburn, 17.53
6. Hayden Plumb, Auburn, 17.56

100-Meter Dash

1. Aditya Kaki, Grafton, 11.42
2. Liam Donagher, Grafton, 11.42
3. Shane Wellman, Auburn, 11.45
4. Cameron Murphy, Tantasqua, 11.56
5. Zack Oliveira, Uxbridge, 11.61
6. Jeremiah Kinsumba, Leicester, 11.77

One-Mile Run

1. Camden Foley, Tantasqua, 4:48.10
2. Nate Davis, Oxford, 4:58.58
3. Vincent Miles, Auburn, 5:00.88
4. Luke Perras, Grafton, 5:02.13
5. Jason Fournier, Leicester, 5:05.94
6. Abhinav Sood, Grafton, 5:07.24

4x100-Meter Relay

1. Uxbridge, 45.62
2. Tantasqua, 46.44
3. Millbury, 46.57
4. Quaboag, 47.98
5. Grafton, 48.24
6. Southbridge, 49.96

400-Meter Dash

1. Cameron Caso, Uxbridge, 53.66
2. Logan Mayo, Grafton, 54.21
3. Luis Gonzalez, Southbridge, 55.22
4. Matt Szela, Oxford, 55.81
5. Declan Donagher, Grafton, 56.33
6. Nathan Leboeuf, Auburn, 56.45

400-Meter Hurdles

1. Cooper White, Leicester, 1:00.48
2. Bryce Tessier, Tantasqua, 1:00.52
3. Nolan Charbonneau, Millbury, 1:01.07
4. Cameron McNally, Auburn, 1:03.17
5. Larry Lamar-Perkins, Grafton, 1:07.19
6. Josh Kurutu, Grafton, 1:09.59

800-Meter Run

1. Aidan Ross, Uxbridge, 2:05.90
2. Luke Herren, Grafton, 2:06.56
3. Vincent Miles, Auburn, 2:11.60
4. Alex Mazzarelli, Northbridge, 2:12.03
5. Dylan Delage, Leicester, 2:13.25
6. Abhinav Sood, Grafton, 2:15.06

200-Meter Dash

1. Cameron Caso, Uxbridge, 23.02
2. Aditya Kaki, Grafton, 23.26
3. Shane Wellman, Auburn, 23.38
4. Liam Donagher, Grafton, 23.76
5. Avery Mitchem, Tantasqua, 24.21
6. Erik Manilut, Bartlett, 24.39

4x400-Meter Relay

1. Uxbridge, 3:52.68
2. Grafton, 3:55.43
3. Tantasqua, 3:55.85
4. Millbury, 3:58.59
5. Auburn, 4:01.27
6. Northbridge, 4:13.35

Strong team effort gives Rams confidence as State Tournament looms



Nick Ethier

Shepherd Hill's Julianna Lancette, a perfect 4-for-4 at the plate, clubs a base hit.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

DUDLEY — The Shepherd Hill Regional varsity softball team will conclude its regular season with a losing record. But do not let that record of 7-10 (with one game to go against Bristol-Plymouth Regional) fool you. The Rams are a good, young, competitive team that has a very difficult schedule, both in the Midland-Wachusett League and outside of it.

Shepherd Hill hosted Blackstone Valley Tech, a nonleague opponent, on Monday, May 22, and the Rams appear to be rounding into good form as they won a 15-3 decision after six mercy-rule shortened innings because of the 12-run differential.

"We needed it," Shepherd Hill head coach John Snyder said of defeating the now 10-8 Beavers.

Shepherd Hill was seeded 26th in the Division 2 Power Rankings at season's end, plus other teams with winning records, will advance to States. Last spring, Shepherd Hill sported a record of 8-10 and were seeded 29th. They hosted No. 36 Marlborough High in the Preliminary Round and won, 6-5. The Rams then lost to No. 4 Westfield High, 7-0, in the Round of 32. The Bombers went on to win the State Championship.

"We want to be competitive in the tournament," Snyder said. "It's a tall task to win, but we're going to give it our best." Hitting can go a long way in softball,

and Shepherd Hill's bats were hot against Blackstone Valley Tech. The Rams collected 16 hits as they turned a 4-1 advantage into a 12-1 lead following an eight-run fourth inning.

"Our top five are our leading hitters. We're as good as those top five batters," Snyder said of Emily Hultgren, Julianna Lancette, Heidi Jarosz, Grace Garon and Annie Hast, who combined for 12 hits and eight RBI's.



Nick Ethier

Mackenzie Millette of Shepherd Hill keeps her eyes on the plate before delivering a pitch.

Hultgren was 3-for-4 with an RBI and three runs scored.

"Emily Hultgren is playing just crazy good," remarked Snyder.

Lancette was a perfect 4-for-4 with two RBI and four runs scored.

"She struggled in the beginning of the season and is coming on really strong now," Snyder said of Lancette.

Jarosz was 3-for-4 with three RBI and a run scored, and Garon was 2-for-4

with an RBI and a run scored. And, although held without a hit, Hast grabbed an RBI on a sacrifice fly.

"She was sick as a dog. She had the stomach virus... she couldn't even bat last Friday," Snyder noted of Hast, who was batting up to .400 before her illness.

Mackenzie Millette was the Rams' pitcher, and her six-inning effort included three runs allowed — two earned — on seven hits while

striking out two, walking two and hitting one.

"She just really, really pitched a good game. Really," Snyder said of Millette's work. "I think she hit her spots today."

Batterymate Alyssa Forbes also had a strong showing, batting 2-for-4 with three runs scored but, perhaps more importantly, throwing out three would-be Valley Tech base stealers.

"She's been working really hard," Snyder said of Forbes. "One of those kids that asks a lot of questions and does her own stuff. Her mother was a catcher in college at Clark."

Despite the Rams' victory, the biggest winner was the Mumma Dawn Fund. Shepherd Hill and Valley Tech combined to raise \$2,000 toward the fund dedicated to Dawn Lindstrom, a Shepherd Hill mother of six who passed away late last year. All proceeds will go toward families with loved ones battling ovarian cancer.

SENIOR CORNER

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

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

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

The Senior Center will be closed on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday 5/30 Chicken w/BBQ sauce. Wednesday 5/31 Vegetable Cheese Bake, seasoned potatoes, green beans. Thursday 6/1 Beef w/onions & peppers, potatoes, glazed

carrots. Friday 6/2 Baked Fish w/parmesan sauce, butternut quinoa, cabbage & carrots.

New Covid-19 Treatment Hotline: Have you tested positive for Covid-19? Telehealth is a quick and free way to see if you're eligible for Covid-19 treatment. Just call 1-833-273-6330. Clinicians are available every day from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm EST.

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

Life Care of Auburn will conduct free blood pressure screenings on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 9:30 am.

Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate will offer a presentation and tips for navigating the Registry of Deeds and Probate Court on Wednesday, May 31st at 10:00 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Join us for Soup Social at the Senior Center on Monday, June 5th at 11:30 am. Sponsored by Christopher Heights. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

DID YOU KNOW??? The Webster

Senior Center has a table shuffleboard with pucks available to play. If you know how to play and how to score, come check it out!!!

Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class.

Progressive Line Dancing with Forty Arroyo on Fridays, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Cost: \$3.00 per class.

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm. Why not sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group now meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center – come join us for 6-card or 13-card pitch! Six card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm – beginners welcome!

Trip 1: The Texas Tenors in Concert at Danversport Yacht Club, Danvers, MA on Wednesday, June 21st. Trip price

of \$119.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, and show ticket. Trip 2: The Corvettes Doo Wop Revue and traditional Lobsterbake at Fosters in York Maine on Wednesday, August 9th. Trip Price of \$119.00 includes transportation, lobster (or chicken BBQ) luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, & show ticket. Our trips sell out quickly so don't wait to reserve your seat! Trip prices do not include bus driver gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office House Numbering Program will create a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you. (508) 949-3845.

Senior SAFE is a program that supports fire and life safety education for seniors. The Webster Fire Dept. will do a home visit to ensure that you have the correct smoke and CO2 alarms and that they are working properly, at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

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

OUTDOORS

continued from page 9

when the calico bass was extremely abundant. My older brother Mel and I would go fishing off of the bridge at Meadow Pond on Main Street, which was less than a quarter mile from our home.

Using a fly rod with a mickey finn fly attached

to a leader, we would catch a stringer of the tasty fish for our dad to clean and make a great fish chowder. I do not remember catching a calico that big, but they were a lot of fun to catch. When the state started to spray DDT to kill mosquitos, it also negatively impacted birds and fish, after they ate the poisoned insects. It was awful! Hopefully, a lesson learned!

Ticks are extremely abundant this year, and can cause some major health problems for man & pets. Be sure to keep your pets on preventive medication. The medication is extremely expensive, but the alternative of losing your pet will be devastating!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

GARDENING

continued from page 9

the white membrane that houses the seeds, just remove this and the seeds if you want the flavor with less heat.

Wear rubber gloves and avoid touching your face and eyes when working with hot peppers as they can burn. Wash your hands, utensils and cutting

boards when finished.

Turn a portion of your pepper harvest into pickled peppers for the hot pickle fans in the family to enjoy throughout the winter. The key to success and safety is using a tested recipe that contains the right amount of ingredients and processing it properly. Check University or other vetted sources for safe recipes and processing guidelines.

Try some of these strategies and men-

Turn To **GARDENING** page **A16**

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Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
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We Want Your Listings!



Featured Listing!
WEBSTER-5 SUMMIT ST

Large & Beautiful! 6 Bedroom Cape! Gently cared for. OFFERS 1,937+/- SF OF LIVING AREA W/6 BRS. LARGE 9,900 SF LEVEL LOT, DET'D GARAGE & STORAGE SHED. CONVENIENT LOCATION, WALKING DISTANCE TO SCHOOLS. PUBLIC ACCESS TO WEBSTER LAKE'S MEMORIAL BEACH! \$314,900.

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * John Kokocinski

WEBSTER-100 PARK AVENUE
CUSTOM 3 bedroom Cape! 1400 +/- Sq Ft. of Living Area. Kitchen, Dining room, Living room, Hardwood Floors, 12' x 12' enclosed porch. Natural Gas cooking Stove! Detached Garage. All on a 14,000 Sq. Ft. Fully Landscaped Lot **\$325,000.**

Featured New Listing!
WEBSTER - 791 SCHOOL ST

Was "THE HUBBARD ESTATE", Quality & Focus on Detail Throughout! 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 4 baths, 2 - 1/2 baths. Hardwood floors, elaborate radius staircase, library, slate floor porch, fireplace living room, solarium. Kitchen w/breakfast nook, dining room, pantry, personal second stairway to upper level. Lower level function room with large windows, half bath, walk-out access to gardens, inviting custom inground pool, tennis court. 3 car brick garage **\$824,900.**

Featured New Listing!
OXFORD - 72 OLD SOUTHBRIDGE RD

Welcome to this Unique Property! Custom Ranch Architecturally Designed for Entertaining! The 4.3 Acres Set Back off the Road offering Peace, Privacy & Tranquility !! Wildlife! Stone Walls & Pond Frontage. Deck Offers both Screened in & Open Areas! It's Own Tiki Bar! Stunning Cathedral Wood Ceilings with Beams, 4 Skylights, Trapezoid Windows & Solid Wood Doors!! 1 Level Living!! Kitchen Specifically planned for Large Gatherings!! 24x34 Garage **\$625,000**

DUDLEY - 25 BUDD DR. ON DEPOSIT!

Well Cared for 3 Bedroom Ranch! Garage. 9,000 Sq. Ft. Lot. **\$285,000**

WOODSTOCK - 4 BARBER RD

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Webster Lake Waterfront Lot

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Webster Lake 13 Loveland Rd

SORRY, SOLD!
Eastern Exposure & Amazing Sunrises! Beautiful shoreline, 3 bedroom Cape features eat in kitchen w/island, fireplace living & dining room. 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms with 1 1/2 bath! **\$785,000**

Webster Lake 27 South Point Road

SORRY, SOLD!
OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage. **\$811,000.**

Webster Lake 13 Bates Point Road

SORRY, SOLD!
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WEBSTER- 1/2 Acre+
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\$80,000

WEBSTER

continued from page 1

are coming from the state's Clean Water Trust at no interest and with a 19.8 percent debt forgiveness, and will be paid from future water receipts.

Water-Sewer Supervisor Tom Cutler said its cost has already been included in water bills for the coming fiscal year, and future years will likely see similar hikes (10-15 percent annually) to cover it.

Water-Sewer Commissioner Earl Gabor said he didn't know what Webster would do if it failed, but the town wouldn't be allowed to use the wells. Digging a new one is possible, but it would require years of testing before use. Selectman Randy Becker said he thought it'd require distribution of "Cases of water. Imagine what that's going to cost."

All of the other items on the special Town Meeting Warrant passed by large majorities, including borrowing \$500,000 for the first phase of the wastewater plant's aeration system rehab project,

164-28. Lafond noted, however, future work on that will need another \$900,000 to complete it. Cutler noted the project is also using \$400,000 from retained earnings (which voters approved in the next article, 159-29) and repurposing funds from a prior completed project.

One voter advocated approval by saying "It'd be really sad to go backwards when we've made so much progress in water and sewer."

Another borrowing of \$2 million for the sewer collection system rehab project passed with almost no discussion, 150-34. Most of the other items were transfers and passed easily, including \$1 million from free cash into Stabilization (139-48), \$288,000 from sewer retained earnings to pay seven sewer deficits (155-24), \$130,000 to fund snow and ice deficit, \$725,000 and \$500,000 for water and sewer capital spending, and paying water and sewer past years bills.

The one remaining item that sparked a little debate was \$250,000 to demolish and asbestos-abate 124R High St. Beresik tried to get voters to nix it, arguing the owners (a family trust)

should be responsible and the price was too high for "a single one-car garage."

Building Commissioner Ted Tetreault said the original demolition cost was \$60,000, but ballooned when the roof collapsed and they discovered it was "hot, the building is full of debris," and people have been going in there illegally. Because the town knows about it and the owner isn't doing anything, he said,

the town is liable.

Lafond agreed, saying "the owner is not going to fix it without litigation," and that would likely take 4-5 years.

The Annual Town Meeting commenced after the Special ended. See related story.

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

BEYOND THE PEWS

continued from page 8

and unfathomable love for us. He created us. He brought us into being. He has an ultimate plan that will bring us complete joy and fulfillment. He passionately loves us and longs to be with us! Remember, He is our Creator, our God, and our heavenly Father.

When and if we do accept His invitation to enter into our heart, than an immediate consequence occurs - we bear fruit, an abundance of spiritual fruit. This is the most definite way of understanding whether one authentically walks with Jesus Christ or not - by the fruit of our lives.

And what is this fruit that we bear when we abide in Christ? St. Paul beautifully describes it as the fruit of the Holy Spirit - "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility and self-control." People will see these holy virtues clearly seen in our lives. A deep joy that no earthly challenge can take away. A peace that passes all human understanding. A love that transcends any boundaries or limits. A kindness and goodness that touch every person we meet. A humility that understands all goodness comes from God Himself.

Other apparent fruit will be the spirit of mercy, kindness, grace, and compassion towards others, especially towards those in need; our readiness to forgive and reconcile with one another, even with our worst enemies; our attitude of continual repentance, where we daily

evaluate and judge ourselves in light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and then unceasingly strive to turn back towards God.

The fruit of a vibrant and living relationship with God will surely include a generous heart towards others. Jesus taught us how it is more blessed to give than to receive. When we abide outside of a relationship with God, we cynically question this attitude. Yet, when we authentically allow Christ to live in us, we adopt the "mind of Christ" which reflects no self-centeredness. Just as our Lord gave abundantly and freely, we find ultimate joy in doing the same. Jesus didn't count the cost but found delight in giving freely and richly. In fact, He emphasized that no one can show greater love than actually giving all that we have for others, including one's own life. Thus, the fruit of generously giving of our time, our talents, our treasure, and our life itself is a clear sign that God dwells within us.

As Orthodox Christians and followers of Jesus Christ, we must learn to understand our central purpose in life is to stay connected with God and to bear the fruit described above for His glory. "Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit My Father takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." (John 15:2)

If we are not bearing Spirit-filled fruit in our lives, the time will come when God will "gather the withered branches and throw them into the fire, where they will be burned" (John 15:6)

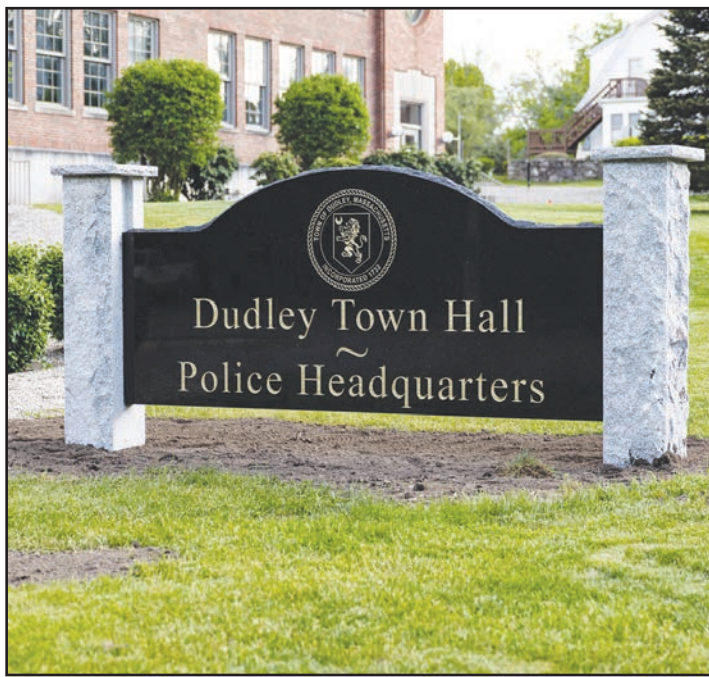
Even if we do see signs of genuine fruit in our lives, we should never become complacent or content. The spiritual life is all about a continual pruning process, where even a good branch is pruned to bear more and more fruit. There is never an end to the blessed fruit we can produce and with which we can glory God's holy name!

As we work in our gardens and out in the lawn this summer, let us always remember the garden of our heart, and strive to harvest a rich crop of abundant fruit, all for the glory of God!

SIGN

continued from page 1

effort to procure the grant as well as the Highway Department who performed the installation. The sign, which reads "Dudley Town Hall - Police Headquarters" accompanied by the town's insignia, replaces a preexisting sign that had graced the municipal complex through much of its life and serves as a compliment to the digital message board on the other end of the front lawn of the property.



Jason Bleau

The new sign at the Dudley Municipal Complex. The design was voted on by taxpayers during the 2022 primaries.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

continued from page 1

top scenarios regarding the relocation and reunification. Additionally, we discussed communication protocols and processes in the event of a multi-hazard experience for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District and to that end we have identified a number of areas that require enhanced protocols and areas for further development which are relocation, reunification, and communication, all of the areas we covered.

The time was invaluable to have all community partnerships face to face to reinforce open lines of communication," Lamarche said during a May 10 school committee meeting.

The Edward Davis Company led the exercise, bringing with them their nationally regarded expertise in security consulting and crisis management with an emphasis on risk mitigation, compliance and emergency response. The Dudley-Charlton Regional School District has made school security and emergency preparedness a top priority over the past few years due to the

increased number of school shootings and other emergencies that have come to light over the last decade, specifically during the 2020s alone. Superintendent Lamarche said he believes the district will benefit greatly from the lessons learned during the exercises.

"What we learned is that everyone wants to ensure the best possible outcome. That we all have a role, but we must understand, appreciate, and respect each other's roles in any event," Lamarche said.

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ELDER ABUSE intake Hotline for Mass., 1-800-922-2275, to report physical/mental/financial abuse. Senior self-harm/neglect. (May remain anonymous in reporting suspected abuse).

Dudley Senior Center hours are 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Seniors are welcome to drop in for self-directed activities, cards, puzzles, movies, knitting or just to hang out with friends.

Tri Valley Congregate lunches are served on Monday & Friday at 11:45 a.m. Reservations for lunch must be made two days in advance. Call the office and leave a message to reserve your lunch at 508-949-8015. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated.

Activities at Dudley Senior Center:
Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. – Pitch League
Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. – The Dudley Senior Women's Knitting group. Come join us if you're inter-

ested in creating groovy knitting projects which are helping to support our community.
Monday and some Fridays are Game Day, after lunch stay and enjoy some board games. Also, "MEMES" a funny picture/memes/blurbs game for up to 20 people.

Special Events at the Dudley Senior Center for June
Monday June 5, 2023: we will be celebrating our June Birthday's. At 1 PM we will serve Cake and Ice Cream. Please let us know if you

would like lunch from Tri Valley or come and bring your own lunch. Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP
Wednesday June 14, 2023, at 12 Noon: Going out to lunch this month will be at Mill Town Grill, in Grosvenor Dale, CT. You can meet at the restaurant at 12 Noon-If you need to carpool you would meet at the Dudley Town Hall for 11:30 AM. Please Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP for the luncheon reservation and let us know if you need to carpool.

Thursday June

15, 2023: Memory Café from 2-4 PM: Come Celebrate with music from Sandy Allen Wind Instruments. We will serve Pizza and Salad. A \$3.00 donation is greatly appreciated. Please Call 508-949-8015 to RSVP.

Pot Luck Lunches will not be available in June, July and August. We will resume these lunches in September.

Evelyn from the Dudley Senior Center, is running a trip to Nashville for all seniors: August 19-27, \$1165 pp/ double occupancy. The trip includes

motorcoach transportation, 8 nights lodging, 14 meals (8 breakfasts and 6 dinners), 2 shows: the Grand Ole Opry and Nashville Nightlife Dinner Theater, 2 guided tours: Nashville and the Belle Meade Historic Site and winery, admissions to the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Grand Ole Opry Behind the Scenes Tour, Madame Tussauds Wax Museum, the Kentucky Derby Museum and the Columbus Museum of Art. \$75 due upon signing. Final payment due 6/12/23. For more

information contact Evelyn at (508) 764-8254.

Please call the Senior Center for any of these Special Events so we have a count: The number is 508-949-8015. Please leave a message. You can also contact us by email: coadirector@dudleyma.gov we are excited to offer new events for our seniors.

Handouts are available at the Dudley Senior Center

Office Hours: Monday & Friday, 9 AM – 2:00 PM. and 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 PM. before and after Memory Café every third

Thursday of the month.

Email: coadirector@dudleyma.gov
Telephone: 508-949-8015. Please leave us a message with your return phone number.

We are always open to new ideas for programs/events. Come and share!

Open to all seniors. You are always welcome to attend any of our programs and events no matter where you live! Just a reminder to RSVP for any special events.

HINT

continued from page 9

**
When ready to arrange, remove all foliage that will be below the water level of the vase or container when arranged. Cutting off the greenery is important because if left on, it will decompose in the vase and encourage bacteria and fungi growth.

**
Dirty vase water produces ethylene, which in turn causes fresh flowers to wilt and die prematurely. High levels of ethylene are also present in ripening fruits and vegetables, so keep flowers a safe distance away from these sources. And be sure to always remove wilting flowers from an arrangement.

**
When displaying your arranged flowers, avoid setting them on a warm surface, or near a heat source. Also note that flowers set in direct sunlight will wilt quickly. To extend their vase life, move flowers to a cool room overnight.

**
However, no matter what you do, the sad fact is: garden flowers with the greatest fragrance typically have the

shortest vase life.

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

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

POSITIVELY

continued from page 9

pool wasn't a failure. Instead, it was life nudging me to look beyond, to find where my natural strengths lay. Sometimes, instead of focusing on 'what might have been,' you must look at 'what could still be.'

A common belief is that shifting goals is akin to giving up. But that's not the whole truth.

Remember: only you know your own heart. Shifting your focus isn't necessarily waving the white flag—it might just be the turn you need toward your real win. Sticking with a lost cause doesn't make you a hero—sometimes, the real bravery is in stepping away from the familiar and venturing into the new.

Being a late bloomer doesn't always mean you'll grow where you originally planted. If life compels you to reroute and venture in a different direction, don't mistake it for failure. Instead, it's a sign that your success is about to blossom—you're just a late bloomer.

It's not about the speed you reach your goals but more about the resilience and determination you develop along the way. Developing the ability to change course when the initial plan doesn't work out and seeking success on a path less traveled.

As a kid, I'd listen to my father's words and feel a comforting sense of validation. Now, those words resonate with even deeper significance. They remind me that it's okay to take my time and that blooming late doesn't mean blooming any less brilliantly.

Don't be quick to deem your ventures as failures if they don't work out as planned. Your goals may shift, and your dreams may evolve, but it's all part of our unique blooming process.

Sometimes, the journey you've embarked upon isn't the one that will ferry you to the shores of success.

Being a late bloomer doesn't necessarily mean you've missed the boat. Sometimes, it means you're getting ready to captain your own ship.

GARDENING

continued from page 14

tion, reduce inflammation, and even burn fat. Over time you may be able to turn up the heat on your favorite recipes for all to enjoy.

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

FINANCIAL

continued from page 9

stocks, but that's not to say that bond prices never change. Generally, when interest rates rise, you can anticipate that the value of your existing, lower-paying bonds may decrease, and when rates fall, the value of your bonds may increase.

Recency bias – Investors exhibit "recency bias" when they place too much emphasis on recent events in the financial markets, expecting that those same events will happen again. But these expectations can lead to negative behavior. For example, in 2018, the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell almost 6 percent – so investors subject to recency bias might have concluded it was best to stay out of the markets for a while. But the Dow jumped more than 22 percent the very next year. Of course, the reverse can also be true: In 2021, the Dow rose almost 19 percent, so investors who might have been susceptible to recency bias may have thought they were in for more big gains right away – but in 2022, the Dow fell almost 9 percent. Here's the bottom line: Recency bias may cloud your expectations about your investments' performance — and it's essentially impossible to predict accurately what will happen to the finan-

cial markets in any given year.

Anchoring – Another type of investment behavior is known as "anchoring" — an excessive reliance on your original conviction in an investment. So, for instance, if you bought stock in a company you thought had great prospects, you might want to keep your shares year after year, even after evidence emerges that the company has real risks — for example, poor management, or its products could become outdated, or it could be part of an industry that's in decline. But if you stick with your initial belief that the company will inevitably do well, and you're not open to new sources of information about this investment, your expectations may never be met.

In many areas of life, reality may differ from our expectations — and that can certainly be true for our investments. Being familiar with the factors that can shape your expectations can help you maintain a realistic outlook about your investments.

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

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Assistant Director of Assessing - Charlton

Performs professional, technical and administrative work in assisting the Director in managing the assessment and appraisal functions for the Town. Full-time (40hrs), excellent benefit package. To view the full job description and to apply, please go to <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources>. Applications must be received by June 1, 2023. Resumes and cover letters can be uploaded on the website. The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete intensive research projects

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

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

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students inducted into National Technical Honor Society

DOUGLAS — Six Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students and an LPN alumna were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) on Sunday, May 14 during an in-person ceremony held amidst the blueberry blossoms at Douglas Orchard and Farms. The outside event marked the eighth annual induction ceremony for the Academy.

According to Academy Director, Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, practical nursing students eagerly look forward to this prestigious event yearly. "Making it through nursing school and being inducted into the NTHS is a feather in their cap! The PN students juggle school, work, and family life, it is quite a feat to be inducted to the NTHS," said Bolandrina, who has been organizing the induction ceremony for the last 8 years. This year is the fourth year the NTHS induction was held at the beautiful grounds of Douglas Orchard and Farms. Owner, Architect & builder Aaron Socrat proudly stated he envisioned the grapes trellises as the backdrop for the NTHS induction, and it turned out to be amazing!

The practical nursing students are eligible for induction based on their grade point average, faculty recommendation, character, and leadership involvement in extracurricular activities, and clubs. These characteristics reflect the member attributes of the National Technical Honor Society: skill, honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

"We are grateful that Douglas Orchard and Farms welcomes us and helps us to celebrate our student nurses' achievements. What started during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic four years ago turned into a tradition. Our practical nursing students and their families enjoyed the beautiful setting of Douglas Orchard and Farms," added Bolandrina. "The practical



nursing students remain resilient, kind, and caring. They navigated the rigorous program through these challenging times and continue to participate in many volunteer activities to help the community."

PN Class of 2023 NTHS Inductees were Paulina Asante of Worcester, Evan Cleveland of Westborough, Ana Hilner of Oxford, Patrick Kariuki of Millbury, Mary Mwangi of Worcester, and Lauren Young of Woodstock, Conn. PN Class of 2022 Honorary NTHS Inductee was Marites Sklarz, LPN of Southbridge.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy runs a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health, Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn). The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org).

Aaron Pigeon inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Aaron Pigeon of Auburn was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Pigeon was initiated at United States Air Force Academy.

Pigeon is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

More About Phi Kappa Phi
Since its founding, more than 1.5

million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards \$1.3 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, visit www.phikappaphi.org.

Founded in 1897, Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Phi Kappa Phi inducts annually approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni. The Society has chapters on more than 325 select colleges and universities in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Membership is by invitation only to the top 10 percent of seniors and graduate students and 7.5 percent of juniors. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction also qualify. The Society's mission is "To recognize and advance excellence in all fields of higher education and society." For more information, visit www.PhiKappaPhi.org.

work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

The following students completed these research projects:

Logan Gervais of Dudley, class of 2024, majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Robotics Engineering, completed a project titled Community Fire Safety Program for the Cerrito School

Brock Dubey of Dudley, class of 2025, majoring in Data Science, completed a project titled eCDR

Nikita Igoshin of North Oxford, class of 2025, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, completed a project titled Water Sustainability at Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Bryce Kennedy, a member of the class of 2024 majoring in Mechanical Engineering, completed an intense research project titled Evaluating Community Engagement with Parks in Ealing.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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

Local students participate in Lasell University RUNWAY shows

NEWTON — Sophia Mazzone, a Lasell University student from Auburn, and Victoria Mann, a student from Webster, participated in the institution's annual RUNWAY shows last month.

Mazzone was video editing manager and a member of the hair and makeup team for RUNWAY.

The annual fashion shows featured work from 89 student designers and more than 150 models and production staff members. An undergraduate show on Friday, April 28, showcased work across 11 categories, including sweater knits, corsetry, athleisure, and non-textiles. On Saturday, senior

designers presented full collections.

Fashion merchandising and management students Jacqueline Minasian '23 and Catherine King '23 co-directed the shows, while Noelle Engrossia '23 served as production assistant. With guidance from Kristin Kinsky, assistant professor of fashion and RUNWAY faculty director, the student leaders managed the entire process: sourcing, training, and coordinating models; managing production staff; coordinating backstage and front-of-house needs; overseeing promotions and media; and working with designers to make their visions a reality.

The senior class show on Saturday, April 29,

highlighted collections from 22 fashion design and production students from the fashion design and production Class of 2023. Each collection included seven looks developed over the course of the year with accompanying music and video content to convey the designer's vision.

The RUNWAY shows closed out Lasell's end-of-year academic festivities, including the Connected Learning Symposium on Thursday, April 27.

For more information contact: Samantha Mogle, assistant director of communications, at (617) 243-2386, or smogle@lasell.edu

SNHU announces Winter 2023 President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Winter 2023 President's List. The winter terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and

summer.

Skyлар Pietz of Dudley

Kelsey Bates of Oxford

Robert Van Loozen of Webster

Karissa Lamothe of Webster

Samantha Rodriguez of Oxford

Jill Magnant of Webster

Dina Holmes of Auburn

Kylie Lambert of Auburn

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU)

is a private, nonprofit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students

and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the "Most Innovative" regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

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Bay Path adds newborn assessments to Nursing Program

CHARLTON — Effectively training nursing students for real life-or-death situations is a difficult task. Nursing students rely on proper training for the necessary, life-saving techniques. Preparations for responding to emergencies include the basics of assessment skills. Nursing students at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy now have a new tool that will give them a better idea of what it is like to assess a newborn and eventually, what it is like to respond to a visible, tangible medical crisis.

Due to Dr. Ana



naming the manikin. “We love that our alumni are supporting current cohorts even after they have left, continuing to recognize that nursing is vital to improving healthcare for all,” said Bolandrina. “We are extremely appreciative of the generosity of time, inspiration, and camaraderie from the alumni, and the opportunities it provides the current students in their practical nursing education,” concluded Bolandrina.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy runs a 40-week (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health, Board of Registration in Nursing (www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn). The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the Commission on Occupational Education (www.council.org).

Olivar’s innovative teaching style and methods, and funding from Perkin’s Fund Code 453 Grant, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy was able to acquire Anatomy Lab Neonatal babies: Manikin boys and Manikin girls, which are life-like manikins that will provide students with experience in newborn assessments in a safe, controlled environment. Student feedback includes: “The newborn assessment was a great addition to our curriculum, I think that type of education is much more valuable than lecture by itself.” “The newborn assess-

ment was very thorough and Professor Olivar made it fun!” “Usually, nursing students read about the newborn assessments or listen to faculty presentations,” but with these neonatal babies, the nursing students will be able to learn through visual and tactile cues,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, Ed, RN, CRRN, MSN, Academy Director. “These new babies are a valuable addition to our Nursing Program,” said Bolandrina. “It provides our students with a realistic assessment experience and prepares them for their future careers as health-

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