

Auburn News

Friday, April 26, 2024

www.StonebridgePress.com

Political Advertisement

Political Advertisement

Political Advertisement

Attention: WEBSTER VOTERS - Monday, May 6, 2024

Elaine Fitzback DAVIES For SELECTMAN One Year Term Experience * Dedication * Integrity to Service



Native Websterite. * Daughter of Henry Fitzback, former Treasurer at Stevens Linen and former Chair of the Chamber of Commerce, and Alice Madura Fitzback. * Graduate of St. Joseph School, Bartlett High School and the University of Massachusetts. * A Bachelor of Arts and three Advanced Degrees, including an MS in Management for Organizational Effectiveness. * Over 40 years of experience in public service and leadership in government, church, and social organizations - with a special focus on strategic planning and implementation, budgeting, policy and regulatory development, emergency preparedness and response, human resources management, and communication. * 30 years of Government service (US EPA Senior Executive).

*** Dedicated to Webster:** Chaired the Webster Personnel Advisory Board; Member of the Historical Commission; Served on the Town Administrator Screening Committee; Member of the Library Strategic Planning Committee; Served on the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library; Supporter of the Veterans Program, Building Bridges; Former Junior Warden at the Church of the Reconciliation; Over 30 year sponsor of a Scholarship for a BHS senior interested in public service and/or ethical business.

I humbly seek your vote on May 6th. With my many decades of experience in public service and my dedication to Webster, I stand ready to work for you on day one. As a pensioner, I understand the importance of using every dollar wisely and that means having the vision to anticipate the needs of our changing community and plan accordingly. Thank you for your consideration!

Paid for by Elaine F. Davies

Dudley EDC continues exploring gateway improvements

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Over the past several years, the Dudley Economic Development Committee has been developing an approach to improving the gateway into Dudley from Webster including partnering with the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC). In mid-April the EDC welcomed CMRPC Representative Jane Wyrick who discussed potential action plans to proceed with the gateway plan initiative.

Dudley's gateway plan is similar to a downtown improvement project providing an attractive and welcoming presentation for those entering Dudley from Webster over the French River. Wyrick engaged the EDC about how the town would like to proceed with the project, which is still very much in the discussion phase, and what it will take to get local businesses and building owners involved in the process.

"These programs are frequently among implementing actions of comprehensive plans or downtown revitalization plans. They often offer incentive programs to encourage property owners to fix up their places and there can be matching grants or loans, tax credits for design assistance, different enhancements to encourage people to use the program. The economic benefits are it can strengthen the local business which keeps more tax dollars coming into the community," said Wyrick.

The process would require the town to determine a formal purpose statement, develop design guidelines and criteria for participation, gain town meeting approval and authorization to proceed with the initiative, establish funding, procure sign-ups for participation, and, finally, implementation. It's a lengthy process with plenty of moving parts. Wyrick noted that a successful program reinforces a strong community identity and attracts visitors who can become customers. She also discussed the variety of fund-

Turn To **GATEWAY** page **A14**



COURTESY PHOTOS



BASEBALL SEASON

The rain held off so the tradition could continue for the Webster Little League parade. From t-ball to Bartlett Varsity, Webster Baseball was proudly represented on all levels as families and friends cheered them on. Special thanks to the league president Kate Hastings and the amazing WLL board members, 100 percent volunteer-ran with 1000 percent heart.

School district hires new Director of Finance and Operations

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The Dudley-Charlton School Committee has approved the hiring of Joseph DeSantis to serve as the district's new Director of Finance and Operations.

DeSantis succeeds Richard Mathieu, who moved on to a new position earlier this year after serving the district for more than eight years. DeSantis was chosen after a five-month search process and performed impressively in interviews accord-

ing to Superintendent Steve Lamarche, who announced the new hire during the School Committee's April 10 meeting.

"Mr. DeSantis presented extremely well throughout the process and gained positive momentum at each stage. A search group selected Mr. DeSantis and the response from district administrators was quite favorable. In addition, I have enjoyed my dialog with Mr. Desantis throughout the process

Turn To **DESANTIS** page **A14**

DCLT acquires 56-acre parcel



DUDLEY — The Dudley Conservation Land Trust (DCLT) is pleased to announce the acquisition of a sizable (56 acre) parcel of conservation land from Richard Lavallee on April 8. This newly acquired land abuts its existing DCLT properties and offers over 1,900 feet of new frontage on pristine Peter Pond. We are grateful to the legacies of Chet Kulisa and Nancy Vajcovec for making this possible, and to the Lavallee family for providing the opportunity.

In total, the DCLT has conserved 200 acres in an area called "Slater Woods" — a designated 1,000+ acre "Priority Core Habitat" per the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fish &

Wildlife. Adding in the adjoining 150 acres of Mass Audubon holdings, there are now more than 350 acres of protected land in Slater Woods, with further conservation lands under negotiation.

DCLT prioritizes the acquisition of land which adjoins existing conservation land. These "wildlife corridors" are critical to ensuring the future of our native species.

According to US Fish and Wildlife, "Wild animals need to move to complete their life cycles. We call their routes wildlife corridors... wildlife refuges are vital to connecting and maintaining safe wildlife corridors for birds, fish and mammals. The more crowded and developed our

world becomes, the more critical these pathways become."

"We are honored to give folks a unique opportunity to connect with nature on a scale that can't be found in any other part of Dudley," said Keith Kirkland, President of the DCLT. "We also want to recognize the history of the area. In fact the one of the prior owners of the 56 acres dating back to 1839 was Samuel Slater and Sons, and an adjoining landowner was the Dudley Woolen Company."

Over the course of the past 200 years, the land has reverted back to nature. The DCLT intends to leave the lands in its natural condition to

Turn To **DCLT** page **A14**

Auburn Scout Troop holding bottle drive Saturday

AUBURN — Auburn Scout Troop 101 is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year! Please help 101 by bringing us your returnable bottles and cans this Spring!

The troop will hold a Can and Bottle drive at the Horgan Ice Skating Arena, 403 Oxford St. N. on Saturday, April 29, from 8 a.m. to noon. All funds generated help run troop programs.

Exploring the state's stormy past and future

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Farmers and farm-friendly folks from across the Bay State

converged on Holy Cross College last weekend for the first Mass Agriculture in Action Expo, exploring topics ranging from bees to soil to climate to seed starting.

There was no keynote speaker per se, but the person with probably the best-known name was CBS meteorologist Eric Fisher, who noted

it's actually easier to predict climate than weather. He noted that's mostly because "you kind of know the inputs" for climate, including pollution, greenhouse gases, eruptions, El Nino/La Nina cycles and solar trends, while daily weather is far more variable.

In general, he noted "the globe should be cooling right now based on natural forcing," but is not, and that's due to human-driven greenhouse gases.

Warming is most notable in the ocean, where temperature has been slowly rising since the 1970s and causing coral bleaching and growing numbers of oxygen-free dead zones. (Pollution is also a factor.) As the water warms, he said, it's been driving species out of their original habitats. One slide showed the northward flee of lobsters, which used to be common around Cape Cod, but are now up in the Gulf of Maine, "one of the fastest warming water bodies on the planet." While we might barely notice a couple degrees, that's "a significant change for plants and animals."

The tropical Atlantic has seen temperatures "way above where it's been in the historical record," and tropical species are moving north. Bay State fishermen, for example, have been catching bonito (a tropical fish).

As water heat rises, the water itself expands, making high tides and storm surges higher. He showed photos from Truro, where the coastline is being consumed by the ocean and homes have "disappeared" in the last 10 years.

It also fuels stronger storms, but Fisher noted

there's no evidence yet of more storms. Typically, Massachusetts gets hit by them in batches with years between them; the most recent hurricane to make landfall here was still Bob in the 1990s.

That said, though, tropical storms have often had more impact. Irene in 2011 caused major flooding in Vermont in part because of the state's "complex terrain," and the fact they'd had very wet conditions before then, he said.

Bay Staters are more likely to know of or remember the double-whammy of 1955, when Connie and Diane hit back to back and a third storm skirted the south coast without making landfall. Combined, they dumped more than 25 inches of rain in many places, hitting Western Massachusetts particularly hard (as Southbridge residents alive them know all too well). Those floods prompted major investments in dams, levees and other flood control methods.

The last major hurricanes were Category 3 Carol and Edna in 1954, with the storm between them just missing us; he noted "they happen every 100 years or so." Hurricanes usually "come in clumps," and concern about the next round "keeps us awake at night," he added.

It probably should, since tropical areas are starting to see hurricanes so strong scientists have begun advocating adding a Cat 6 to the Saffir-Simpson Scale. Cat 5, now the highest, covers storms with sustained wind over 157 mph; Cat 6 would start at 193 mph. So far

five storms have crossed that threshold, all of them in the Pacific. The strongest Atlantic storms have been Allen in 1980 (wind speed 190 mph) and Wilma in 2015 (lowest pressure, 882 mb; 185 mph; three other storms also hit that speed).

Hurricane Carol prompted the formation of the National Hurricane Center, Fisher said. Before that, none of the hurricanes had much warning since there were no satellites. The unnamed hurricane of 1938 rolled across the region at 45-50 mph, killed about 700 people, "crashed the lumber industry" and devastated our forests. A storm in 1888 caused so much road flooding in Boston it sparked construction of the subway. The "Great Colonial Hurricane of 1635," estimated at Cat 3, is mostly known from sediment cores and "very detailed diaries," including those of governors Bradford and Winthrop.

The strongest storms our region gets, however, tend not to be in summer. They're more often cold-season Nor-easters. Most of us remember the Blizzard of '78, which is "still the gold standard" because of how it changed forecasting. Before that, he said, forecasts were "very poor" and "more generalized" than today. "Only about two forecasters in Boston predicted a big storm for this," Fisher noted.

The blizzard actually began hours after it was predicted to, so many people were caught on the roads and stranded in 40 inches of snow and huge drifts.

New England saw more



Eric Fisher

snow in February 1969, when the Mt Washington area got 100 inches in 100 hours, while 2015's "Snow Blitz" saw 94 inches over the course of 30 days. Fisher showed photos from that year of a woman digging her car out of snow over her head; there were "drifts up to 20 feet high," he recalled.

On the other end of the spectrum, heat has also been a major concern, and is likely to be more serious with climate change. Fisher cited the Summer Swelter of 1911, when people routinely wore wool, layers and hats even in summer. Cities "opened their parks to sleep in," but more than 2000 died. That year's 104-degree peak is still Boston's record.

It will probably get broken in time. Climate projections say our region is heading toward being like southern Georgia by 2100. Fisher said right now our climate is "like New York City 100 years ago." He recommended farmers look at New Jersey and Pennsylvania for similar crops, but said we will likely see "no particular tipping point." Instead, it will "just be harder to adapt."

One audience member noted that's already happening. She said she's seen "this little thing and that little thing" making it more difficult for people to grow food to support themselves. Others cited spring frosts wiping out peaches across the region last year and a combination of weather and disease killing trees.

Climate change will emphasize the extremes in precipitation and temperature, even as the average rises. Fisher noted that effect has sometimes surprised even him. At one point, he calculated the number of top 10 warmest months vs coldest and found we've seen 52 of the former vs just one of the latter.

"I never imagined it'd be that lopsided," he said.

On the other hand, he added, "the peak climate projections for temperature have come down because countries are making changes. ... There has been progress. It's not all gloom and doom."

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

PROPERTIES FOR RENT
Prince Edward Island, Canada
Summer/Fall Weekly Cottage Rental
2-bedroom newly constructed oceanfront cottage that sleeps 8.
Sweeping views of the pond, ocean and lighthouse.
Enjoy kayaking, bicycling and beach walking.
\$900/wk. Contact Scott at 603-254-5032 or scottm@plymouth.edu
TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA
YEAR-ROUND SHORT-TERM RENTAL
1-bedroom unit overlooking ocean in a gated community with pool and walkway to beach. Sleeps 4. Watch dolphins at play, freighters, pelicans and fishing boats. Prices vary.
Contact Oceanfront Cottage Rentals at 800-786-5889 or <http://www.oceanfrontcottage.com/listings/218-bay-breezes>

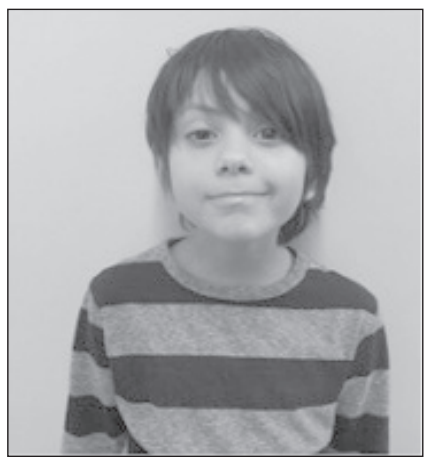
HILLSIDE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
Excavation/ Site work • Utilities Trenching
Drainage/ Water Mitigation • Demolition/ Large junk removal
Land Clearing • Stumping • Farm Services/ Fencing
Brush Control & Mowing • More...
Hillside Excavation & Property Maintenance

774-633-0892 HillsideDigging@gmail.com

PAWfect LIFE RESCUE
Enjoy the Day - Run, Fetch, Play!
PAW of the WEEK COPPER
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION

Copper!
Meet Copper! 7mo/48lb/Male/Shepherd Lab Mix!
I'm a young guy with a heart full of love, so why not consider making me a part of your family? I am a shy guy and need you to be patient with me as I warm up to you. I love to play in the backyard & snuggle in for a good cuddle. Stop by to meet me! I am one of the sweetest friends around!
Apply for Copper at www.pawfectliferescue.org

Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor the Pawfect Life Rescue **PAW of the WEEK!**
Bring your furry friend along on your next trip to MFB for a treat from our drive-up tellers, or stop in any branch and bring home a treat from our complimentary doggy biscuit bar.
1271 Providence Rd, Whitinsville, MA
508.234.8256 • 800.357.2265
MilfordFederal.com
Member FDIC

Friday's Child

Hi! My name is Dakodan and I would someday like to go to a professional sporting event.
Dakodan is an energetic young boy who loves sports especially basketball, football and soccer. He also enjoys listening to music. Dakodan does very well academically in all subjects and is at or above grade level in all his subjects. His favorite subject is math. Having a great memory Dakodan can remember most events in his life and likes to talk to others about them. He is also a strong advocate for himself. Favorite foods for Dakodan are hamburgers and donuts but he is usually not fussy about what he eats. Helping around his home Dakodan likes to make his bed, keep his room clean and organized and help with chores.
Dakodan would like a mom and dad family. He especially wants a dad in his life and would benefit from having one who could be a role model for him. An active and sports involved family would be a good match for Dakodan as they would be able to get him out socializing with his peers and funneling his energy into healthy activities. He will also need his new family's help to maintain regular contact with his 2 siblings who lives in western MA.
<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8897>
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.

Scout Troop 101 to hold annual yard sale

AUBURN — Auburn's Scout Troop 101 will be celebrating it's Centennial this year. We are seeking donations to help fill our tables at our annual yardsale, being held at the Auburn Town Library on Saturday, May 25. All sales will help fund scouting programs and equipment.

If you have usable furniture, Scout and camping equipment, home goods, tools, antiques, aquariums, books collectibles, games, children's items, sporting goods, or any other items suitable for a yard sale that you'd like to donate, we are accepting through May 23. Please call and schedule a pickup from: Chris (508)868-5634, Andy (774)696-7713, Faith (910)840-3140, or George (774)402-1393. Thank you for your support! Please, no televisions, computers, clothes, or broken items that we cannot sell.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, April 27th
from 8AM to 12 PM
Friends of St. Louis Yard Sale
Located in the Church parking lot
Cleaning out? Save you item that are clean & in working order to donate to our yard sale.
Rent a space - \$10 Need a table - Additional \$20
We are accepting donations which can be dropped off at the church hall.
Saturday, April 20, from 8AM to Noon
Thursday, April 25 from 4 to 6PM
Friday, April 26 from 4 to 6PM
Please Note: We cannot accept large furniture, bedding or electronics. Clothing accepted in clean decent condition (no rips or holes)

PEPIN WASTE SERVICE
Your Local Roll-Off Specialist
Spring Special \$335
10 yd. Rental 1 Ton
3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

Roll Off Containers
Weekend Dumpsters for the Homeowner
Houses • Attics • Cellars
Construction Sites
10-15-20 Yd.
508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA
Fully Insured


John Thomasian to assume role of CEO at Webster First after Michael Lussier's retirement



WEBSTER — After 37 years of service to Webster First Federal Credit Union, President and CEO Michael Lussier announced his retirement effective May 1. The credit union's Board of Directors named current Vice President of Risk Management, John Thomasian, as his successor.

"Michael's notice of retirement allowed the Board of Directors time to establish a CEO selection committee to review its succession plan, hire a new CEO as well as assist in the transition from Michael to John Thomasian," said Christopher Daoust, chairman of the Board of Directors at Webster First. "The Board of Directors thanks Mike for his leadership and outstanding service to WFFCU and the credit union movement. We wish him all the best, secure in the knowledge

that WFFCU has the capabilities and strategic focus to continue delivering quality service for its credit union members."

When Lussier first began leading this small-town credit union in 1987, it had just \$87 million in assets and approximately 24 employees. The Board of Directors hired him as CFO at the age of 26, and during August of 1990, appointed him President and CEO.

In 1995 Lussier changed Webster First's charter from a state to a federal, opening the doors for growth. He kept up to date on credit union affairs by serving as chairman of the board for the Massachusetts Share Insurance Corporation (MSIC) and for the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). He was also a member of the board for the Credit Union League of Massachusetts.

Ten new branches and eight subsidiaries were opened during his leadership as well as 12 merger acquisitions. In 2017 he wrote "The Credit Union Merger & Acquisitions Handbook," which was distributed to credit unions around the country with the help of NAFCU. Today, Webster First has an asset size of over \$1.4 billion, and a handful of awards for excellent member service.

"As I reflect on my time at Webster First Federal Credit Union, I'm filled with immense gratitude for the opportunity to work alongside such a dedicated and talented team..." said Lussier. "I have always believed in providing exceptional customer service, implementing innovative solutions, and going above and beyond to support our members. Our entire team at Webster First FCU has done the same. The collaborative spirit that permeates our workplace is a testament to the caliber of individuals who make up our organization...I couldn't be more delighted to see John Thomasian step into this role. John's leadership, integrity, and passion for our credit union are evident to all who know him. I have every confidence that under his guidance, Webster First Federal Credit Union will continue to thrive and uphold its reputation as a beacon of excellence in our community..."

Thomasian is a graduate of Nichols College with a degree in Finance and Accounting. He is also a graduate of NAFCU's Management Development Institute and served as a member of NAFCU's Political Action Committee. Thomasian's financial

expertise includes experience as a CFO and a chairman of the Town of New Braintree's Finance Committee. He was a recipient of BusinessWest's 40 Under Forty award in 2021.

"Working alongside Mike for the past 14 years has really opened my eyes to how influential of a leader he has been. Not only to Webster First, but to the entire credit union movement..." said Thomasian. "He had a vision for Webster First to invest in its branch network, digital products, and employees... By doing so he has made Webster First one of the top performing credit unions in the state of Massachusetts. Having Mike as a mentor has allowed me to observe the fundamental foundations modeled that made him a successful CEO. I am honored to be given the opportunity to serve as Webster First's next President/CEO and look forward to expanding and enhancing the integrities it was built upon."

COURTESY PHOTO

John Thomasian (left) is taking over for Michael Lussier as President and CEO of Webster First Federal Credit Union.

Saturday May 18th @ 4pm Bethel Lutheran Church/Grace Ministries of Auburn will be performing music concert "Peace & Praise" as they continue to celebrate their Centennial anniversary. The program will include present as well as past organists/choir directors/choir members and musicians performing hymns, anthems, contemporary music; bell choir as well as children's performances. A reception will follow. All are welcome to either attend or participate in this festive, free-will offering event. Upcoming events will include a church picnic on August 3rd recognizing Sunday School, Bethel Pre-school, Scouts, Camp, Vacation Bible School and all things "kids". To round out the year of celebration, there will be an Octoberfest on Reformation Day, Oct 27th, to celebrate our Swedish/German heritage and to bury a Time Capsule. For more information contact Adam Hanks at: arhanks42385@hotmail.com

Dudley Water Department HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Dudley Water Department will begin hydrant flushing in Mid April and continue through August 2024. Flushing of hydrants will be conducted during normal business hours in most areas. (Normally between 8am-2pm Monday – Friday) During flushing operations, you may notice discoloration to the water, please do not be alarmed this is normal and does not pose a health risk. If you have any questions or concerns, please call The Dudley Water Department at: 508-949-8007 or sewerwater@dudleyma.gov

Advanced BUILDING SERVICES

Southbridge Mass
774-230-4231

New Construction • Additions • Remodeling
Decks & Porches • Kitchens & Baths
Basements • Windows & Doors • Siding & More

774-230-4231 • glenlatour69@gmail.com

Hike through history with Alison O'Leary May 5

WEBSTER — Award-winning journalist Alison O'Leary will take a walk through history and describe how our use of land changed when America's agrarian economy and culture shifted with the Industrial Revolution, on Sunday, May 5, at 3 p.m. at the Samuel Slater Experience museum.

Ms. O'Leary will also take us on a tour of some of the many Massachusetts parks and trails that have been carved out of historical sites.

The author is a Massachusetts history buff and outdoorswoman who has published five books on history, hiking, and travel. Her presentations include stunning visuals, insights into the research involved, historical perspective and humor.

This free presentation is sponsored by the Webster Cultural Council. Please register at samuelslaterexperience.org or leave a message at admin@samuelslaterexperience.org or 508-461-2955.

Hikes Through History will be from 3 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 5, at the Samuel Slater Experience, 31 Ray Street, Webster. Visitors who also plan to tour the museum should arrive by 1 p.m.

About Samuel Slater Experience

Samuel Slater Experience, which opened in March 2022, employs state-of-the-art 4-D digital technology to tell the story of Samuel Slater, the beginnings of the American Industrial Revolution, and the founding of Webster, Massachusetts, in the early 19th century.

The museum is located in the former National Guard Webster Armory at 31 Ray Street, Webster, Massachusetts, and open to the public year-round. Daily Schedule: Fridays & Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m. Ticket purchases for school trips, private events, and groups can be arranged directly with staff.

ALMOST QUEEN
A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN

MAY 11
TICKETS ON THELOOS.ORG

LOOS CENTER FOR THE ARTS
150 ROUTE 169, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
BOXOFFICE@THELOOS.ORG | (860) 963-6789

70th Annual Windham County 4-H Auction & Tag Sale

326 Taft Pond Rd., Pomfret, CT
Fri and Sat May 3rd and May 4th

Auction: 5 PM Preview, 6 PM Auction
Both Nights Admission Free
Sat – Outside Tent Auction 5:30 – 6:00 PM

Gift certificates to restaurants, museums, golf courses, ski resorts, tourist attractions local services, a sky dive, and a two night stay at the Cape.
Also new, used & antique furniture & collectible items, live plants, artwork, hourly raffles, silent auction baskets, 50/50 Raffle, bake sale & homemade food & pie from Mary's Kitchen.

TAG SALE
HUGE Tag Sale
Free to all Fri 10:30 am – 5 pm
and Sat 9 am – 5 pm
Early bird buy in \$5/person
9 – 10:30 Fri Only
Over 4,000 sq ft of household, garden, toys, tools, linens, Christmas, we have it all

Friday Night:
Cape Escape ,
a pre-Mattel American Girl Doll
and a Player Piano

Saturday Night:
2 VIP Red Sox Tickets
for July 14
behind home plate and an
autographed Derek Jeter 16x20
framed photo and a new snowblower

Kellsie Gauvin named Commencement Speaker at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy

CHARLTON — Kellsie Gauvin, RN, WCC of Southbridge, will be the principal speaker at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's 14th Graduation and Pinning Ceremony on June 21.

"Kellsie embodies caring. It has been ten years since she graduated with the PN Class of 2014," said Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina,

DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN. "Her commitment to caring and academic progression are an inspiration to all who value the art and science of nursing. We look forward to welcoming her and to acknowledging her outstanding contributions to nursing."

Gauvin is the HBO (Hyperbaric oxygen therapy) Safety Director at

the Wound Care Center at UMass Memorial Health Harrington at 10 N. Main St., Charlton. Gauvin is certified in wound care, serving as a leader and a role model. Certification is the mark of distinction for a specialty. WCC by the Wound Learning Academy by SNF wound care "is an online education platform with content approved by RN and LPN/LVN Nursing Board nationwide, in all 50 states. WCC offers 30 CEU for license renewal." She demonstrated dedication to the highest standards in wound care management and achieved recognition and elevated her status as a wound care specialist. According to the Wound Learning Academy, "Wound Care Certification demonstrates specialized and distinguished knowledge in wound

management, promoting the highest level of care for all wound care patients."

Gauvin plays a key role in managing HBO. She provides wound care education to patients and their families, operates HBO chambers for treatment of non-healing wounds, oversees monthly HBO safety drills and ensure staff members are up to date on their quarterly supervision of HBO dives, and ensure safe operation through weekly maintenance of HBO chambers. Hyperbaric oxygen therapy involves exposing the body to 100 percent oxygen at higher pressures than what one normally experiences. Wounds need oxygen to heal correctly. Exposing a wound to 100 percent oxygen at higher pressures can, in some cases, speed the healing process.

Gauvin is an alumna of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, PN Class of 2014. She completed the rigorous program, was awarded the Academic Excellence

Award, and passed the NCLEX-PN on her first try. While a nursing student, she competed in SkillsUSA Health Knowledge Bowl and earned gold medals in district and state competitions making it to nationals and earning a bronze medal.

"I cannot believe that it has been ten years since I graduated from the practical nursing program," said Gauvin. "Time really does fly!"

Gauvin is also an alumna of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School, Class of 2011. She graduated as the Class Valedictorian. In December 2021, Gauvin completed her Associate of Science in Nursing degree at Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester. Before joining UMass Memorial Healthcare at Harrington, Gauvin was an LPN Nursing Supervisor at the Overlook (2015-2021). She was with Spectrum Health Systems briefly before joining UMass



Kellsie Gauvin

Memorial Healthcare at Harrington as a Registered Nurse. She became the Hyperbaric Safety Director in January 2022.

Recent Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy alumni Commencement speakers include Kalie Hernandez, LPN Class of 2017, Donna Pope, LPN Class of 2017, and Kiana McDonald, BSN, RN Class of 2017.

In Loving Memory 2nd Anniversary



James "Joe" Thompson

June 16, 1961- April 23, 2022

Two years ago, we shared our last goodbye. You've become the wind that whispers in our ears, the sun that warms us, and the moon that watches over our dreams. Wherever you are, you will forever be in our hearts. We miss you, always. Michelle, Joseph & Emily

Anniversary Mass, Sunday, April 21st
10:00 am St. Joseph's Church, North Grosvenordale, CT

Dudley Woman's Club pays tribute to fallen military for Memorial Day

DUDLEY — Each year, the Dudley Highway Department weeds and mulches the plant beds at the town's 11 veterans' memorial squares and monuments in preparation for Memorial Day.

Dudley Woman's Club volunteers then plant flowers purchased by the club and continue to weed and water the squares throughout the summer and close the season by cleaning out the beds in the fall.

For many years, DWC co-founder and perennial member, the late Nancy Vajcovec (1947-2022) steered this project. She gathered the volunteers, shopped for the plants, and oversaw the perpetual care of the squares.

In honor of her years of passion for, and dedication to, this project, the DWC has hired Manard Landscaping out of Charlton to revitalize each square.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Dudley Woman's Club is sponsoring the revitalization at the town's 11 veterans' memorial squares.

In this one-time project, Manard Landscaping has cleaned the stones and plaques, trimmed shrubbery, replaced the cement walkway at one square, expanded the flower beds (where possible), edged the beds, and installed stone borders (where needed).

The Quinebaug Honor Roll square on Route 131 is the subject of an

Eagle Scout project. The DWC worked with the Scout Leader to see how the club could contribute to, without interfering with, his project and it was decided that the DWC/Menard would install a new cement sidewalk; a needed item that is beyond the Scout's skills. The Scout will finish refreshing the square later this summer.

The DWC thanks the owners of Menard Landscaping, who were so moved by this project to care for the memorials to our fallen military member, the have kindly donated a portion of their work.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21	22				23			
24	25	26										
27	28	29	30			31			32	33	34	
35		36				37			38			
39				40					41			
42				43					44			
45				46					47			
48				49					50			
51	52	53	54			55			56	57	58	59
60				61					62		63	
64				65					66			
67				68					69			

CLUES ACROSS

- Excessively theatrical actors
- Footwear
- A way to disfigure
- Exchange rate
- Hawaiian wreaths
- North-central Indian city
- Bungle
- Extremely angry
- A short note of what's owed
- Criminal organization
- Mimic
- Try to grab
- U.S.-born individuals
- Some are covert
- Order of the British Empire
- Don't know when yet
- Payment (abbr.)
- Winged angelic being
- Variety of Chinese
- A way to be anxious
- Famed wrestler Hulk
- Partner to cheese
- Slang for sergeant
- Canadian flyers
- Actress Ryan
- Highly unpleasant vapor
- Body part
- Halfway
- Cool!
- Consume
- Salts
- Upper bract of a floret of grass
- Housepet
- Cavalry-sword
- Symbol of a nation
- Frocks
- Used to carry food
- Portuguese folk song
- Sharp mountain ridge
- Ireland
- Where golfers begin
- Greek mythological sorceress
- Fluid suspensions

CLUES DOWN

- "Mad Men" leading man
- Water (Spanish)
- Annoy
- Bulgarian capital
- Japanese title
- Capital of Zimbabwe
- Giraffe
- A mixture of substances
- Midway between south and southeast
- Staffs
- Turkish title
- Type of acid
- Thin, flat strip of wood
- Russian river
- Ribonucleic acid
- Partner to flow
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Earthy pigment
- Genus of earless seals
- "Key to the Highway" bluesman
- By or in itself
- Hot fluid below the earth's surface
- Partner to trick
- British Air Aces
- Ammunition
- Supervises flying
- Health care for the aged
- Flanks
- Millimeters
- Where wrestlers perform
- Not around
- Flightless bird
- Bell-shaped flowers of the lily family
- Expressed concern for
- Satisfies
- Flew off!
- Wings
- Load a ship
- Vigor
- British title
- Whiskey
- Adams: founding father
- Body of water

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

LOWEST PRICES • FULL SERVICE

Serving Worcester County for almost 60 years! Shrewsbury's Own...

AL'S OIL SERVICE

www.alsoil.com

We accept most major credit cards

24-HOUR EXPERT BURNER SERVICE • 508-753-7221

TO PLACE AN AD:

MIKAELA VICTOR
(774) 200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

LEGAL NOTICES:
(508) 909-4127

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL
obits@stonebridgepress.news

CALL: 508-909-4149

OR send to Webster Times
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news

OR send to Webster Times
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

PUBLISHED BY
STONEBRIDGE PRESS
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DI NICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagenewspapers.com

THE WEBSTER TIMES (USPS#024-928) and THE AUBURN NEWS (546-680) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC., 25 ELM ST., SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WEBSTER TIMES, P.O. BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550

Mother's Day will be here soon!
Order now to make sure you're ready
Gifts for Mom,
Designed by you!

Cormier Jewelers & ART GALLERY
It's Different In Here!
A Family Business Since 1949
152 Main St., Spencer
508-885-3385 • CormierSpencer.com
Tues., Wed, Fri 10-5 • Thurs 10-6 • Sat 10-3
Closed Sun & Mon

ALMANAC

OPEN TO CLOSE

DUDLEY

DUDLEY TOWN HALL (508) 949-8000
Monday: 8:00 AM-6:30 PM (second floor offices),
Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.
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)
For emergencies, call 911
WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Student nurse shares reflections on Wound Care Center Harrington



Ashley Breault

SOUTHBRIDGE — Breault is a Certified Practical nursing student, Ashley Breault of Brookfield, recently shared her reflections at the Wound Care Center Harrington.

Breault is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center (since 2021). She was previously honored as Employee of the month

at Quaboag and has been active with mentorship since 2022. She completed her CNA and Home Health Aide Certification at the Fieldstone School in 2021. Breault is an alumna of Quaboag Regional Middle High School (2019). She is certified in Mental Health First Aid, Dementia Care, Stop the Bleed, HCP/BLS Provider CPR and first aid. She participated in her clinical team's Luminary lighting project for the Alzheimer's Association's the Longest Night to shine a light to diminish the darkness and illuminate a path towards a world where Alzheimer's and dementia are nothing but a memory. Recently, Breault took the leadership of restocking the PN food pantry at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy.

"Our nursing students continue to be blessed to have the opportunity to observe at the Wound Care Center at Harrington," stated Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN

Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy.

Under the guidance of Adrianna Rothera, BSN, RN, WCC Clinical Program Director at the Wound Care Center, UMass Memorial Health Harrington at 10 N Main Street in Charlton, who stated that "the students were great so far!"

Bay Path Practical Nursing students are assigned a two-day clinical observation at the Wound Care Center at Harrington.

Bolandrina added, "Having a certified hyperbaric therapist, an LPN and an alumna at that, (Paige Wood, LPN, CHT, PN Class of 2014) makes a positive difference for patient care."

Breault reflected, "Before this experience, I had not imagined being interested in this specific nursing field. However, while I observed the wound nurse for two days, it gave me a better understanding of what this fascinating role of a wound nurse entails. The nurse uncovered the dressing, examined, and

cleaned the wound with normal saline, and measured the length, width, and depth. The nurse would then take a picture with a ruler in front of the wound and document the new measurements into the client's chart. After the provider examined the client's wound, the nurse would reapply the new dressing and set up their next appointment."

Breault continued, "It was incredible to see the wound nurse's relationship with her clients and the smile she put on their faces by doing small tasks such as hanging up their coats and helping them put them back on before leaving. Something that caught my eye was the 'healing bell' that was on the wall between rooms three and four. Many of the clients' wounds take a couple of weeks to months to heal, and this bell gives them hope that one day they will complete their treatment and their wounds will finally be healed."

Breault concluded,

"During this observation, I saw all types of wounds on different body locations, a wound vac, and the hyperbaric oxygen therapy chamber, which I found incredible. The nurse that I was observing, along with the rest of the staff at the clinic, were so friendly, caring, and organized and provided thorough and extraordinary care to every client that walked through their doors. Overall, I loved having this fantastic opportunity! I learned so much about the wound care process!"

According to Bolandrina, "At Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, we believe that student engagement and patient advocacy are contributory to a well-rounded, prudent nurse. Success is intentional. Ashley's reflections and active engagement in empowering, she is an impressive young lady who is bound to make wonderful contributions in the nursing field."

Who qualifies as a US military veteran?

BY STEPHEN ROGERSON
DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF VETERANS' SERVICES

DUDLEY — Over the years I've heard many opinions of what people think a US military veteran is. I will explain from a VA Accredited veterans' service's officer (VSO) perspective.

Under US federal law, a veteran is any person who served honorably on active duty in the armed forces of the United States. Discharges marked "general and under honorable conditions" also qualify. Other qualifying events are any person who served in the active military, naval or air service of the United States and was discharged from the service due to a service-connected disability or filed a claim and was service-connected for a disability sustained while in the service.

For example, a person could go into the service and injure themselves while in basic training and receive a service-connected disability rating from the VA. They would be considered a veteran no matter how long they served.

Certain veterans of the Philippine Commonwealth Army identified as scouts who served between Dec. 7, 1941, and Jan. 1, 1947, are considered veterans of the United States.

Members of the National Guard and Reserves may be considered veterans if they were deployed under Title 10 (Federal Orders) and complete that deployment and are issued a DD-214 (discharge) under honorable conditions. People who just serve in the National Guard and Reserve without a federal deployment are not eligible for veterans benefits, unless they were injured during their basic or advanced training or while on weekend drill or the two-week summer training. They

must have reported the injury, filed a claim with the VA, and been rated as disabled for that injury.

Other types of people considered veteran are those who served as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, the Environmental Science Services Administration or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor the Coast and Geodetic Survey. These individuals would have a document similar to a DD-214 as proof of this service.

Eligibility for veteran's benefits also depends on the character of the discharge. There is honorable, general under honorable conditions, other than honorable, bad conduct and dishonor-

able. Normally only honorable and general under honorable conditions will qualify the veteran for benefits.

Officers cannot receive a dishonorable discharge. If they are demoted in rank at a court-martial, they are given an officer's discharge that is equal to a dishonorable discharge. There is also an entry-level separation given usually within the first 180 days for medical or other reasons. Most times the person is not considered a veteran.

Veterans should never take it for granted that their discharge if not honorable would preclude them from benefits from the VA. The wise thing to do is to apply for them unless the character is bad conduct or dishonorable.

There is also a process to apply to have the discharge upgraded. This process should take place within three years of discharge, and the veteran should have a rationale for claiming that the discharge should have been honorable. The services have in the past rated people with personality disorders that were found later to be post-traumatic stress disorder. This usually occurred after the service member returned from a combat tour and had trouble dealing with the authority back in the home unit. Service members who have had this experience should contact our office and let our VSO look into the matter.

Section 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID
MGL c.149 Over \$150K

The WEBSTER HOUSING AUTHORITY, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Roof Replacement, Golden Heights II at Golden Heights II in Webster, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **NAULT ARCHITECTS INC.**

The Project consists of but not limited to:

Replacement of existing shingle roofing and related underlayments and flashings

The work is estimated to cost **\$232,000.00.**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at www.biddocs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, Roofing, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **08 May 2024 on 2:00PM EDT** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates), and made payable to the **WEBSTER HOUSING AUTHORITY**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at www.biddocs.com

(may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Scheduled

Date and Time: 05/02/2024 at 9:00AM EDT

Address: 1 O Golden Heights, Golden Heights II Development, Maintenance Garage, Webster, MA 01570

Instructions: None

Annual fishing festival geared to all ages

OXFORD — The Oxford Conservation Commission has teamed up with the Department of Fish & Game again this year to introduce fishing to those new to the sport. Fishing instructors will teach how to set up your rod, tie knots, cast and identify fish on Saturday, May 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Caruncle Pond in Oxford.

This family-friendly event is open to all levels of experience and ages, and no fishing license is needed. Participants can bring their own gear or borrow it from the instructors; bait will also be provided. In addition to the fishing fun, Rangers from The Last Green Valley will be on hand to discuss the multitude of outdoor opportunities in the area from hiking and canoeing to upcoming cultural events. Attendees can also learn about wildlife and nature activities available at the nearby Hodges Village Dam and Buffumville Dam from Army Corps of Engineers Rangers. The first Family Fishing Festival at Caruncle Pond took place in 2016 and due to its success, has been scheduled every year since then!

For Advertising Information
Call 774-200-7308
email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



A STONEBRIDGE PRESS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
25 ELM STREET, SOUTHBRIDGE MA 01550
TEL. (508) 764-4325 • FAX (508) 764-8015
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

There is no "One size fits all"

In a world filled with variety and complexity, it's essential to recognize and appreciate the wide spectrum of human capabilities and nuances. Yet, there are those among us who, due to various factors such as limited education or closed-mindedness, struggle to grasp the richness and depth of human nature. These individuals often cling to traditional beliefs and narrow perspectives, unable or unwilling to acknowledge the scientific discoveries and advancements that shed light on the intricacies of human behavior.

It's time to address the misconception that intelligence is solely determined by academic achievement or adherence to conventional wisdom. In reality, true intelligence encompasses the ability to understand and appreciate the complexity of the human experience, including its many facets and dimensions. This requires an open mind and a willingness to explore new ideas, even if they challenge long-held beliefs or societal norms.

It's important to emphasize that intelligence is not a fixed trait but rather a dynamic and multifaceted quality that can be cultivated and expanded over time. Those with so-called "simple minds" or limited education should not be dismissed or marginalized. Instead, they should be encouraged to broaden their horizons.

Scientific research has revealed countless fascinating insights into human behavior, from the intricacies of our cognitive processes to the complexities of our emotions and social interactions. These discoveries have expanded our understanding of what it means to be human and have challenged many preconceived notions about human nature.

For example, studies in psychology have shown that human behavior is influenced by a multitude of factors, including genetics, environment, and personal experiences. This means that there is no one-size-fits-all explanation for why people think, feel, or act the way they do. Each individual is unique, shaped by a complex interplay of biological, psychological, and social forces.

Furthermore, advances in neuroscience have revealed the remarkable plasticity of the human brain, demonstrating its capacity for growth and change throughout life. This highlights the potential for individuals to learn, adapt, and evolve, regardless of their starting point or background.

In light of these scientific findings, it's clear that a narrow-minded and simplistic view of human nature is not only outdated but also detrimental to our collective progress and understanding. We must look to cultivate a culture of intellectual curiosity.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

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

Denying ourselves

Jesus Christ says: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Let's take a moment and reflect on what Christ is saying here. It's pretty radical and counter-intuitive. If any of us want to come after him, to follow him, to become one of His disciples, what's the first thing we must do? Our Lord bluntly states that we must deny ourselves.

Think about how this goes against the grain of who we are – DENYING OURSELVES! To follow Christ means we can't put ourselves first; something or SOMEONE comes before our very own selves!

What does that even mean? Our society teaches us that we should fulfill our desires, pursue our dreams, make ourselves the center of our lives. We live in a free country where we can do whatever we want, we are taught. The world teaches us to take care of ME first and foremost. Of course, such an attitude implies placing our EGO at the center of everything.

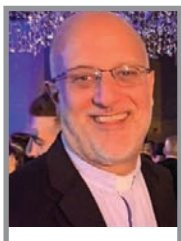
Our EGO. Our pride. Our self-assurance. My way or the highway!

Yet, Jesus says the exact opposite. He knows that it was their pride and ego that led Adam and Eve to forget God, to turn away from their Creator, and to listen to the lies of the Evil One. Our first forbearers listened to the deceptive voice telling them that they could become god without the One True God. Our Lord understood all this and that is why He tells His followers, "If you want to follow me, you begin by denying yourself and crucifying your ego!"

I often quote one of my favorite lines from Archbishop Anastasios of Albania when he asks, "What is the opposite of love?" Is it hate, like so many people would say? No, it is the EGO. The opposite of love is the ego. Divine Love is outward turned toward the other, toward the least of our brothers and sisters, toward the world around us. The EGO is inward turned toward only ourselves. Divine Love is ready to sacrifice for others even to the point of death. The EGO focuses only on what will benefit itself. Divine Love readily offers mercy, forgiveness, and grace to others, even to those who have deeply hurt us. The EGO holds on to resentment, bitterness, anger, and hatred because it only remembers how we were hurt by others.

The EGO ultimately leads to our pride and arrogance and self-righteousness. Adam and Eve gave in to their ego, they gave in to their desire to become like God but without God. Every sin that leads us away from God has its roots deeply intertwined with our pride and our egocentric desires.

Jesus Christ reminds us that the two



BEYOND THE PEWS

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

greatest commandments have to do with divine love - loving God and loving one another. Yet, if we ever truly want to learn to love, we must learn to deny ourselves, crucify our ego and see the other as our salvation.

To deny ourselves means that we don't place ourselves first. God is first. He stands before all else. Before our families. Before our work. Before our pleasure. Before our hobbies and entertainment. Before everything.

Jesus makes it radically clear that if we truly want to follow Him, we need to make him the top priority in our lives. Seek first the Kingdom of Heaven and His righteousness above all else. We can't be a true follower of His if we put Him second or third or down the list of our priorities.

This is so hard for most of us to do. We have so many desires

and we want to fulfill what we want to do. We think that we will discover true happiness when we fulfill our desires and passions and make them first in our lives. We want to be first in our own life!

The way toward an authentic, vibrant, life-giving relationship with Jesus Christ, however, begins when we make every effort to deny ourselves and place Him on the throne of our hearts.

The interesting and beautiful paradox of the Christian Faith is that when we learn to deny ourselves, we discover that we will truly find ourselves. When we learn to deny ourselves, we will discover who we truly are and who we were meant to be. A life following Christ opens up to us the treasures of the Kingdom of Heaven. By denying our egocentric desires, we discover the abundant life of divine love, joy, peace, hope, and grace. By denying ourselves we create room to grow into the likeness of God, imitating Him and becoming like Him.

Saint Paul is a prime example of someone who denied himself throughout his life following his conversion, yet by denying himself he discovered something new. He became a new creation! He could then say, "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me... For me to live is Christ and to die is gain... I have learned to be content in every circumstance, whether I have much or whether I have little... If I live I live to the Lord and if I die I die to the Lord so whether I live or die, I am the Lord's... Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice."

The new and abundant life that comes when we learn to deny ourselves and follow Christ!

"If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Becker supports Davies for Selectman

To the Editor:

On Monday, May 6, Webster voters will be asked to elect one selectman for a one year term, along with one selectman for a three year term. Someone I know, respect, admire and am blessed to have as my sister-in-law, Elaine Fitzback Davies, is running in the contested election for the one year term.

Yes, I am Elaine's brother-in-law, but I have also been a Webster Selectman for the past nine years who has decided it is time to step down and not seek re-election. My nine years of experience have taught me many things about town governance. In particular, it taught me the attributes, personality, experience and wisdom one should possess as a selectman. Based on this, I wholeheartedly endorse Elaine for one of our town's most important policy making positions.

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) represents the Chief Executive Office for the Town of Webster, whose primary responsibility per the Town Charter is the formulation and promulgation of policy directives and guidelines. When I first ran for the BOS in 2015, I felt my multiple decades of business experience, educational background (Nichols College BSBA and MBA) and volunteerism to our town provided me a unique background to serve. Having known Elaine for more than two thirds of my life, I can't imagine a better, more qualified candidate to represent the Town on the BOS.

Rather than repeat Elaine's long list of career accomplishments and Webster volunteerism, I refer you to

her letter to the Editor published in last week's Webster Times. In summary, that letter is a testament to a life well served with over 40 years of public service. Elaine grew up in our town, left for a career in the federal government and retired back "home" from her service eight years ago. As a US EPA Senior Executive, Elaine honed the necessary skills in areas that would be beneficial to our Town as a Selectman, including strategic planning, human resource management, communication, consensus building and budgeting to name just a few. As noted in her letter to the Editor, upon returning to Webster, Elaine hit the ground running. Elaine served on numerous town committees, library committees, and functions related to her church and serving our local veterans through "Building Bridges."

Throughout my nine years in office, I learned that being a selectman requires critical skills, chief among them: experience, leadership and diplomacy. Simply put, to accomplish the tasks required of a selectman, one needs more than just knowledge and youthful energy, one needs wisdom which is not something simply learned in school.

In my opinion, Elaine possesses all of the above and more, most importantly including the wisdom to analyze problems and make informed decisions. I humbly ask Webster voters to recognize this and support Elaine with your trust and your vote.

Sincerely,

RANDY BECKER
WEBSTER

Financial Literacy: It's important for everyone



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

April is National Financial Literacy Month — a good reminder that all of us can benefit from boosting our financial knowledge.

But what is financial literacy? There's no one single definition, but the term certainly covers these areas:

Saving – Most of us would probably agree that saving money is important, but actually doing it can be challenging given all the expenses of modern living. Still, techniques are available that everyone can follow, such as having money automatically moved each month from a checking or savings account to a financial account that's not used for daily expenses.

Budgeting – Budgeting isn't necessarily a fun activity — but it's an important one. And it's easier than ever these days, given the variety of budgeting tools available online. By tracking your spending every month and organizing it into categories, you may be able to find areas where you can cut back, such as on streaming services you rarely use.

Borrowing – Virtually all of us carry some type of debt at various times in our lives. But it's important to manage your debt load so it doesn't become too burdensome. One way of achieving this goal is to use "good" debts wisely — such as a low-rate mortgage on your home — and avoid "bad" debts — such as high-rate credit cards used for unnecessary purchases.

Investing – As you go through life, you'll likely have a variety of financial goals, such as making a down payment on a house, sending your children to college and attaining a comfortable retirement lifestyle. And to achieve these goals, you'll need to invest for them. That's why it's important to learn about different types of investments and how to develop an investment strategy that's appropriate for your objectives, risk tolerance and time horizon.

We aren't born with these skills — we have to learn them. Unfortunately, as valuable as they are, they aren't widely taught to young people. In fact, according to a 2023 Edward Jones study conducted with Morning Consult, only 20 percent of respondents reported receiving financial education in school. This situation may be changing, though, as many states are now requiring or recommending personal finance education before high school graduation.

For now, though, if you have younger children, try to teach them money management skills. You will likely find that they enjoy learning about these matters. You can make it fun for them in different ways, too. For example, to teach them about investing, why not buy them a share or two of stock of a company with which they're familiar? Charting a stock's progress and learning something of the factors affecting its price can help children build a foundation in investing, which will be valuable when they reach the age when they can invest for themselves.

But financial education isn't just for kids. If you feel that you are lacking somewhat in any of the key financial management areas mentioned above, you can always educate yourself by reading or talking to people knowledgeable in these subjects. You also might find it valuable to work with a financial professional — someone who will take a holistic approach to your finances and make appropriate suggestions.

National Financial Literacy Month will end on April 30, but the benefits of financial literacy can last a lifetime.

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.

It's turkey hunting time

It is turkey hunting time in Mass., and for those hunters that enjoy hunting wild turkeys, the excitement of harvesting a bird is here. The season opens this coming Monday, April 29, in Mass. You need to be an outdoorsman or woman to appreciate the sport. This writer enjoyed many morning wild turkey hunts in Mass. and Rhode Island.

It required doing some scouting prior to opening day, which paid off big time when the season opened. Locating a few turkeys put me in the right place when the season opened. Setting up my camouflage blind prior to the season had me sitting comfortably in my chair sipping on coffee & waiting for first light. Waiting for shooting time and listening to the woods come alive, was often the best part of the hunt. During hunting I once watched a lone coyote sneaking up on my turkey decoys at first light. He had no idea I was watching him, and when I opened my blind door, he quickly hightailed it across the field.

It was now legal shooting time and it was not long before I heard a couple of tom turkeys gobbling in trees not far from my blind. Suddenly, I spotted a couple of hen tur-



Courtesy

Jerry's Bait & Tackle sponsored his annual trout derby at Louisia Lake last weekend in Milford. All in attendance had a great time catching trout and claiming their prizes for the largest trout caught.

keys coming my way. As they slowly walked towards me, I could also hear their putting sounds which was also picked up by the two toms nearby. The toms gobbled excitedly and soon came into my sight. I normally give a couple of calls on my turkey call, but with the two hens heading my way,

I decided to keep quiet. It was not long before the two toms were in range for a shot, but I decided to wait and watch the show that was about to start. One tom decided to attack one of my decoys, and when he was done with him, he knocked the other decoy off of his stake, which was stuck in

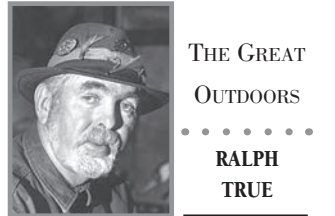


Big lake trout from Wachusett Res. last week. They are still catching numerous lakers at Wachusett.

the ground.

The two live hens were slowly walking away from the decoys and the two toms in total display were about to follow. It was time to harvest a bird. As I slowly poked the gun barrel out the window of the blind, I took aim at the largest bird and squeezed the trigger. The No. 6 three inch shell discharged, sending

a roar through the valley. The huge turkey laid still on the ground, as all of the other turkeys scattered. I quickly rushed out of the blind to retrieve my bird. I took a deep breath as my heart was still racing from the excitement of the hunt. How fortunate are we to still hunt this magnificent bird which was absent from



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS

RALPH
TRUE

our woods for so many years & reintroduced back into our open space only 20 years or so ago from Vermont and New York.

Local streams and rivers were stocked with trout last week which included the West River. Local lakes and ponds continue to produce some nice trout and Wachusett Res. also is giving up some nice Lakers as this week's picture shows. Jerry's Bait & Tackle sponsored his annual trout derby at Louisia Lake last weekend in Milford. All in attendance had a great time catching trout and claiming their prizes for the largest trout caught.

The Whitinsville Fish & Game Club held their annual kids' fishing derby last weekend also and had a good number of youngsters participating in the event.

Haddock fishing was red hot last week and should stay good until the waters warm and the fish head out to deeper water. The Weather also needs to cooperate.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Celebrate the Planet: April Hosts Earth Day & Arbor Day

The 1970s, dubbed the "turning point" decade, introduced many new ideas and cultural changes, including an environmental revolution that launched the first Earth Day, now celebrated each year on April 22nd]. The decade also honored "earth friendly" Arbor Day with the birth of the Arbor Day Foundation which was started in April 1972, and is celebrated this year on April 26th. In recognition of Earth Day and Arbor Day, both celebrated in April, this week's column offers the following information to support environmentally friendly actions.

Arbor Day: The first Arbor Day was held on April 10, 1872 and marked with the planting of one million trees. This year's Arbor Day will be recognized on April 26th. Each state celebrates its own state holiday and the customary observance on this historic day is to plant a tree. The Arbor Day Foundation, founded in 1972 on the 100th anniversary of the first Arbor Day, serves as a nonprofit conservation and education organization of nearly one million members, with a mission to inspire people to plant, celebrate and nurture trees. In fact, the organization is the largest nonprofit conservation organizations dedicated to planting trees as it plants and distributes more than 10 million trees each year. The foundation also works with the U.S.

Forest Service to plant trees in America's national forests and the National Association of State Foresters to plant trees in state forests.

Currently, the Foundation is scaling efforts to plant 500 million trees by 2027 in areas where they're needed most.

Free Trees: The Arbor Day Foundation gifts members with ten free trees for as little as a \$12 dollar membership. Members can choose ten trees that grow well in your growing zone. Or, you can choose to send the trees directly to someone else. Members may also opt to have the foundation plant ten trees in a forest in need in your name. Choices of free trees in our Central MA area include flowering trees, wild bird garden trees, White pines, White Dogwoods, White Furs, Colorado Blue Spruces, Redbuds, and more. New members also receive a free subscription to the foundation's bimonthly newsletter as well as an Arbor Day gardener's handbook and tree information guide. In addition, members enjoy up to a 50% discount on over 100 trees and shrubs. For more information, visit arbor-day.org.

Earth Day: This year marks the 54th anniversary of Earth Day. Begun as a grass roots movement, the day to recognize and respect Mother Earth, has grown to global proportions. Each year



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

environmental issues are tackled as rallies, programs and protests are planned across the world. Organized efforts promote environmental responsibility through such earth friendly actions as recycling, conserving and preserving. EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in its commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of all plastics by 2040.

To join the Earth Day 2024 Campaign, log onto earthday.com for coordinating worldwide events for Earth Day 2024 and beyond.

Save Water and Save the World Saving our natural resources is an important effort in which all ages can participate. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) promotes water efficiency year round, and offers these "water waster" solutions in time for Earth Day.

Challenge: Leaky faucets that drip at the rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water each year. Solution: If you're unsure whether you have a leak,

read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.

Challenge: A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every day. Solution: To tell if your toilet has a leak, place a drop of food coloring in the tank; if the color shows in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.

Challenge: A full bath tub requires about 70 gallons of water, while taking a five-minute shower uses 10 to 25 gallons. Solution: If you take a bath, stop the drain immediately and adjust the temperature as you fill the tub.

Challenge: The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of two gallons per minute. Solution: Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth in the morning and at bedtime can save up to 8 gallons of water per day, which equals 240 gallons a month!

Challenge: The typical single-family suburban household uses at least 30 percent of their water outdoors for irrigation. Some experts estimate that more than 50 percent of landscape water use goes to waste due to evaporation or runoff caused by overwatering. Solution: Drip irrigation systems use between 20 to 50 percent less water than conventional in-ground

sprinkler systems. They are also much more efficient than conventional sprinklers because no water is lost to wind, runoff, and evaporation. If your in-ground system uses 100,000 gallons annually, you could potentially save more than 200,000 gallons over the lifetime of a drip irrigation should you choose to install it. That adds up to savings of at least \$1,150!

Virtues of Trees: Trees play a crucial role in reducing energy costs for homeowners. Planted strategically, they can provide shade, which helps keep buildings cooler during hot weather. According to the Arbor Day Foundation, homeowners can save up to 20% on energy bills by having the right trees in the right places.

Trees lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade. Shaded surfaces may be 20-45°F cooler than the peak temperatures of unshaded materials.

The Center for Urban Forest Research proclaimed planting a tree can have a significant impact on lowering energy use. It claims: "If you plant a tree today on the west side of your home, in five years your energy bills should be 3% less. In 15 years the savings will be nearly 12%."

Trees remove pollution from the atmosphere, improving air quality and

human health.

According to the USDA, one large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.

Roadside trees reduce nearby indoor air pollution by more than 50%.

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 (or whenever enough entries are received) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

We've all been there before, standing at a crossroads, faced with a major decision that could shape our future. Pacing back and forth, you ask yourself, "Should I? Shouldn't I? What if it doesn't work out? Do I really believe in this? What should I do?" Each question adds weight to the decision, making the moment feel monumental.

It all boils down to this: Are you willing to pay the price?

Everything has a cost, and each decision requires something from us—be it time, money, effort, or even a piece of our peace of mind. We're asking ourselves whether we can handle the potential losses and whether the potential gains are worth that sacrifice.

Consider the decision to

propose or accept a marriage proposal. It's not just about the romantic moment or the excitement of starting a life together. It's about considering whether you're ready to intertwine your life with another's, accepting all their strengths and flaws, supporting each other through every challenge, and celebrating every triumph. It's a lifelong commitment that demands emotional investment and the readiness to grow together, even when the path gets rocky.

Or think about starting a business meant to revolutionize an industry. It's about the grueling hours of planning, the financial risk, and the personal strain it can place on your relationships. It means stepping into a competitive arena, ready to per-

sist through setbacks and failures, with the vision of creating something transformative.

Then there's the choice of a career path, especially one that's demanding or high-stakes, like becoming a surgeon or a human rights lawyer. These professions require years of intense education and training, immense dedication, and, often, personal sacrifices. The costs are high—not just in time and money but also in the emotional toll of high-pressure environments. Yet, the rewards can be substantial: the ability to profoundly save lives, influence positive change or contribute to justice.

Imagine the historical decision faced by George Washington when he chose to stand up against the British Empire. Here was a man, a farmer, and

a soldier weighing the immense risk of leading a fledgling group of colonies in rebellion against one of the world's mightiest powers. The personal stakes were enormous: the potential loss of his life, his family's safety, and his property. The cost of failure was not just personal ruin but the collapse of an unprecedented aspiration for democratic governance. Yet, the potential gain of a free and independent nation guided his decision, marking a pivotal turn in history.

In the middle of the night, he must have muttered to himself, "It's a high cost to pay."

Taking on any of these ventures could mean investing significant resources. It might disrupt your current routine, pushing you to work tirelessly into the foreseeable

future.

Imagine this: after a long day at your day job, you come home only to begin another shift, painstakingly laying the groundwork for your dreams.

Are you ready to commit to such an extent? It's in moments like these that careful deliberation becomes crucial. Starting with a burst of motivation is one thing, but can you maintain that drive until the end, or is this enthusiasm merely a fleeting interest?

Will the late nights and early mornings chip away at your well-being, or will they be the stepping stones to fulfillment and success? Each decision, with its inherent risks and rewards, is a step towards defining who we are and what we can achieve.

Reflecting on these

questions helps us gauge our readiness and prepare our hearts and minds for the journey ahead. Are you able to pay the price? Can you afford the cost?

As you stand at your crossroads, pondering whether to advance or divert your path, weigh the cost meticulously—each decision carries profound consequences. Consider not only what might be lost but also the potential gains.

Is this path true to your heart? The decision is yours alone. Counting the cost can bring substantial worry, but worry not. Take a moment, breathe deeply, and step forward with courage. After careful deliberation, you'll find that your choice will align with your deepest convictions, for you have fully counted the cost.

STEAM Museum comes to Gladys Kelly Library



Courtesy

Zion and Reconciliation Churches warm hearts and bodies The Joint Outreach Committee from Zion Lutheran Church, Oxford, and Church of the Reconciliation, Webster, contributed to the efforts of other community service groups to keep neighbors in need warm throughout the winter months. Several parishioners with a knack for knitting put their needles to good use creating colorful hats and mittens for children and adults. New and gently used clothing were generously donated. From November through March, hundreds of pounds of hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, sweaters, and socks were delivered to the shelves of the Gladys Kelly Memorial Library in Webster. Bright blue signs assured library visitors that anyone could help themselves to these gifts.

WEBSTER — Registration is now open for the STEAM Museum event at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library on Tuesday, May 7. This program will turn the Library's Community Room into a state-of-the-art, hands-on children's museum focused on STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). Stations students can experience include robots, virtual reality, 3D printing, art, engineering, and more! With 12 STEAM-related hands-on exhibits suitable for students of all ages, there is something for everyone. Thanks to funding from the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, this event will serve as a field trip for the 6th graders at Webster Middle School during school hours, and a free public event after school. This is the second field trip the Friends and the Library have

held for Webster school-aged children. Last year, the Library hosted The Whalemobile for All Saints Academy, where 113 students attended. Registration for one

of three time slots is required for the public sessions: 3:30, 4:15, and 5 p.m. Sessions are 40 minutes long, and can hold up to 60 people. Please visit the Library's events

calendar on the website for more information. For any questions, please contact the Children's Room at (508) 949-3880 ext 1057.



Learn about Nancy Drew at Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

DUDLEY — The Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library in Dudley celebrates the tales of teenage amateur sleuth Nancy Drew.

Come learn about the history of the beloved sleuth Nancy Drew. At this presentation, you will learn about the many different editions that have been printed since the Nancy Drew series was first published in the 1930s, as well as surprising facts about the series. The presenter, Alicia Mello, is a passionate collector and expert on all things Nancy Drew.

Mello has been collecting Nancy Drew books and other items for more than 20 years. She will present interesting pieces from her collection. Bring your Nancy Drew books and your memories to share with the group. Mello will share the origins of your book and its potential value.

All ages are welcome. This program is funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library.

Clean Slate Estate Inc. Call (401) 640-9385
New England's Premier Clean-Out Company Toll Free (800) 989-4521
ESTATE CLEAN-OUT SPECIALISTS

YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL, WE CAN HELP YOU
EASY, FAST ESTATE REMOVAL SERVICES

Fully Insured and Bonded

"We buy Artwork, Coins, Comics, Gold, Jewelry, Silver, Vintage Toys & Trains, Etc... Highest Prices Paid!"

FREE QUOTES CALL US FIRST

www.CleanSlateEstate.com

Hearthstone Market & Catering

New Spring specials. Let us do the cooking!

Rt. 20, 630 Main St. • Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm - ENTRANCE IN BACK

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com

LIVING ROOM SALE

Our finest lines will include Names like La-z-boy, Craftmaster, Best, Ashley and Lancer

0% INTEREST - FOR 1 FULL YEAR!

www.sundeenfurnitureinc.com

Sundeen Furniture

241 Providence Rd., Whitinsville • 508-234-8777

FREE REMOVAL • FREE DELIVERY

M.T.W. 9:30-6:00; TH. & FRI. 9:30-7:00; SAT. 9:30-6:00; SUN 11-5

GRILL SALE!

SPRING SALE!

GOING ON NOW!

BIG SELECTION OF E-BIKES

GIANT BIKE SALE

WE REPAIR BIKES!!!

MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: \$199
(REGULARLY \$299)

FULL: \$269
(REGULARLY \$499)

FULL: \$299
(REGULARLY \$599)

5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER #7150

\$219⁹⁹
WAS \$299.99

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER #7150

\$299⁹⁹
WAS \$599.99

18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR

\$549⁹⁹
WAS \$699.99

MAYTAG DISHWASHER #MDB4949SKZ

\$549⁹⁹
WAS \$849.99

STAINLESS STEEL BOTTOM FREEZER

\$899⁹⁹
WAS \$1295.99

DELUXE WHIRLPOOL WASHER

\$499⁹⁹
WAS \$699.95

FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR

\$999⁹⁹
WAS \$1,599.99

HOTPOINT WASHER OR DRYER

\$469⁹⁹
WAS \$599.99

MAYTAG DRYER OR WASHER

\$569⁹⁹
WAS \$699.99

WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER

\$1599⁹⁹
WAS \$2,699

10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER

\$499⁹⁹
WAS \$599.99

20 CUBIC FOOT UPRIGHT FREEZER

\$799⁹⁹
WAS \$999.95

LG TOP FREEZER 18 CU. FT.

\$699⁹⁹
WAS \$899.99

AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1533CBAS • Stainless Steel

\$599⁹⁹
WAS \$699.99

GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS505SNWW

\$749⁹⁹
WAS \$999.99

20 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER

\$899⁹⁹
WAS \$1099.99

LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE

\$729⁹⁹
WAS \$999.99

OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE

\$199⁹⁹
WAS \$279.99

NO CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? NEW EASY FINANCING TERMS ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET SPENCER, MA 508.885.9343

SEE WHITCO SALES.COM FOR 100'S OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 10am-8pm • Sun: 12pm-7pm

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

news@stonebridgepress.news

Auburn resident honored at Safe Homes Gala

WORCESTER — Open Sky Community Services announced today that more than \$165,000 was raised during its annual Safe Homes Gala on April 12 to benefit programming for LGBTQIA+ youth. In addition, six individuals and organizations were honored during the event with 2024 People of Courage Awards for their inspiration, advocacy and allyship.

“We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of pride and support for our Safe Homes program and we are thrilled to honor these six advocates,” said Open Sky President and CEO Ken Bates, who noted that the 350 attendees made it the organization’s largest gala yet. “Together, we are working toward achieving a more inclusive community.”

The event also celebrated the 20th anniversary of marriage equality in Massachusetts, including remarks from Gary Chalmers, an original plaintiff in the Goodridge v. Department of Public Health lawsuit that won marriage equality in Massachusetts, and a video message from Gov. Maura Healey. Other speakers included state Sens. Robyn Kennedy and Michael Moore and Worcester Mayor Joseph Petty.

Receiving 2024 People of Courage Awards was Charles O’Donnell of Auburn, who received the Community Champion Award. O’Donnell (he/they) is a volunteer board member for Love Your Labels, organizes the monthly Gay Professionals Networking group, and is a primary organizer of the Queer AF fashion show held during Worcester Pride Week.

Also honored were:



Courtesy

Charles O’Donnell of Auburn received the Community Champion Award at Open Sky Community Services’ Safe Homes Gala on April 12 in Worcester. Pictured, from left are Open Sky President and CEO Ken Bates, emcee Che Anderson, O’Donnell, and emcee Connor Hayden. O’Donnell (he/they) is a volunteer board member for Love Your Labels, organizes the monthly Gay Professionals Networking group, and is a primary organizer of the Queer AF fashion show held during Worcester Pride Week. (Photo Credit: Veronica Jay Photography)

Femme, the only lesbian bar in New England, which was presented with the Innovative Business Award. Owners Julie Spring (she/her) and Danielle Spring (she/her) opened Femme in Worcester in 2023, creating a safe space for all members of the queer community and allies. They continue to show their commitment to the community through civic engagement, donations to nonprofit organizations, and involvement in local events.

Queer Youth Assemble, a youth-led and youth-run organization that began in Massachusetts in 2021, which was recognized with the People’s Choice Award. QYA is committed to advocating for anti-racism and LGBTQIA+ rights, and hosts events throughout the year for

queer youth. The recipient of this award is chosen by Safe Homes youth participants.

Chrissi Bates of Worcester, who received the Social Justice Advocacy and Action Award for her advocacy for young adults experiencing homelessness. Through work and volunteering, Bates (she/her) relentlessly strives to educate the public on sexual exploitation and trafficking, drawing on their lived experience to drive positive change.

Gabriella Diaz of Worcester, who received the Young Adult Award. Diaz (she/her) is a peer mentor leader for the Gender Sexuality Alliance, a student advocacy group, at her school, Suffield Academy in Connecticut, and the founder of the Dear

Worcester Youth initiative, which aims to give voice to Worcester youth and provide mental health resources. She is also a board member for the housing and mental health-focused nonprofit The WellStorm, Inc.

Alice Cleghorn of Worcester, who was honored with the Youth Award. Selected for the award by Safe Homes staff, Cleghorn (she/her) is a youth advisor at Safe Homes and a former Commonwealth Corps intern. Cleghorn (she/her) uses her lived experience to connect with shy and reserved youth who are new to the Safe Homes community.

The annual Safe Homes Gala, which was held at the AC Hotel by Marriott in Worcester, supports the program’s educational programming, leadership training, free mental health counseling, referrals, recreational activities and emergency supports for LGBTQIA+ youth ages 14-23. The program operates two sites, Safe Homes Worcester and Safe Homes North at Fitchburg State

University, as well as a robust online community.

About Open Sky Community Services

Open Sky Community Services is a 501(c)3 nonprofit agency based in Worcester that has been opening doors for individuals in our community for over 50 years. The agency provides a wide range of services throughout Central Massachusetts for children, adults and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other complex challenges. Open Sky Community Services has over 1,300 dedicated employees and nearly 150 programs throughout the region, supporting over 5,000 individuals annually. Open Sky is committed to race equity and is on a journey to learn, grow, teach and transform. For more information, please visit www.openskyces.org.

CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING ON LAKE LASHAWAY

FRIDAY ACOUSTICS
4/26 JONNY TAYLOR
5/3 HIT THE BUS
5/10 EVAN COUTURE

MUSIC BINGO EVERY THURSDAY 7 TO 9

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH
10 to 3

Please call 774-449-8333 for reservations, take-out or reserve online 308lakeside.com

OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK
11 - CLOSE
CLOSED MONDAYS

Please visit our website or Facebook page for our full menu.

308 MAIN STREET
EAST BROOKFIELD
774-449-8333
308LAKESIDE.COM

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Maxwell Luciano's
BANQUET AND CONFERENCE CENTER AT UNION STATION

Mother's Day Brunch

SUNDAY MAY 12TH 2024 9AM TO 3PM.

Adults: \$39.95
Ages: 6-12: \$27.95
2-5yrs: \$19.95

Breakfast Items, Hot Entrees, Salads and Fresh Fruit, Assorted Breads and more ...

Call 508 755-6408 or 508 755-1200 for information & reservations

Maxwell Luciano's Banquet & Conference Center at Union Station
2 Washington Square, Worcester, MA 01608

news@stonebridgepress.news

NAI Glickman Kovago & Jacobs

25 ELM STREET | SOUTHBRIDGE, MA

9,536-SF HISTORIC OFFICE BUILDING FOR SALE

- Historical building, also known as Tiffany-Leonard House, built in 1832
- Large Executive Offices with Elegant Finishes and High Ceilings
- Large Open Concept Cubicle Areas

- Listing price: \$650,000
- Building size: 9,536 SF
- Lot size: 13,939 SF
- Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
- Basement: partial | Unfinished

TOP TEN THINGS TO DO WHEN SELLING A HOME

#1

call me

→ I'LL HANDLE THE OTHER 9

508-341-8299

Broker/Owner • LISA CARON • Notary Public
caronlisarick@aol.com • lisacaron.com
42 West Main Street Brookfield, MA 01506
ABR, GRI, SRES, MRP, CDPE, PSA, SRS, RENE, E-PRO, C2EX

MORE INFO:

JAMES GLICKMAN
Principal
508-769-5007
jglickman@glickmankovago.com

JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President
508-868-3765
jdglickman@glickmankovago.com

OBITUARIES

George S. Lorkiewicz, 91



F O R T LAUDEDALE, FL – George S. Lorkiewicz, 91, formerly of Dudley, MA died Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at home in the presence of his family. His wife of 56 years, Phyllis M. (Hobson) Lorkiewicz,

died in 2014.

He leaves 3 sons, Kenneth J. Lorkiewicz and his wife Pat of Willow Springs, NC, Mark S. Lorkiewicz, and Brian G. Lorkiewicz of Myrtle Beach, SC; a daughter, Melinda of Fort Lauderdale with whom he lived; 4 grandchildren, Timothy, Zachary, Brandon and Kara; 2 great-grandchildren, Lucille and Vincent; and nephews and nieces. He also leaves his beloved cavapoo Cheerio. He was preceded in death by his daughter Lisa in 2001, by his grandson Matthew and by his brother Bernard.

He was born at home in Dudley on July 29, 1932, the son of Stanislaus M. and Veronica S. (Tadla) Lorkiewicz and lived there until moving to Florida in 2020. He was a graduate of Bay Path Regional Vocational High School in Charlton and earned a Bachelor of Science from Fitchburg State College and then a master's degree from American International University.

He was an Army veteran of the Korean Conflict and was a member and past commander of the Webster-Dudley American Legion Post #184 where he helped with renovations.

Mr. Lorkiewicz was a self-employed carpenter for many years. He taught carpentry at the former Dudley Junior High School and at Bay Path Regional. He then was a computer teacher in the Southbridge School System before retiring in 1997.

George was a longtime member of Saint Andrew Bobola Church and was instrumental in helping to install the church's organ and in replacing the cross on the steeple. He also organized parish festivals for several years. He was a board member and ten-year past president of the Webster-Dudley Boys & Girls Club where he currently held the title of director emeritus.

His funeral was held Tuesday, April 23, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster, MA with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main Street, Dudley. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace, Webster with the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council performing the military honors. Visitation was held Monday, April 22, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM in the funeral home.

Donations in his name may be made to the Webster-Dudley Boys & Girls Club, 55 Oxford Avenue, Dudley, MA 01571.

www.websterfunerals.com



Roger Drake Bacon Jr., 90



OXFORD – Roger Drake Bacon Jr., 90, of Elm Street, died Wednesday, April 17, 2024, in his home surrounded by his wife and loving family. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Myrtle C. (Hamilton) Bacon

of Oxford; four daughters, Virginia L. Beamsley and her husband Alan of Gallup, NM, Catherine L. Looney and her husband John of Holland, Jane E. Bania of Oxford, and Sara J. Bacon of Culver City, CA; a brother, Bruce "Butch" P. Bacon and his wife Delane of Florida; two sisters, Bonnie A. Boyle of Charlton, and Annie L. Corriveau and her husband Steven of Naples, FL; his sister-in-law, Sandra J. Bacon of Charlton; eight grandchildren, Meghan E. Looney and her partner Raymond Gonyea, Heather E. Wilson and her husband Michael, Daniel B. Looney and his wife Rebecca, Jason M. Harty and his wife Kelsey, Maureen C. Connery and her husband Scott, Craig A. Beamsley, Cameron M. Beamsley and his fiancée Kiana Ruch, and Kristen E. Bania and her fiancé Matt Tecci; twelve great-grandchildren, Dylan, Elizabeth, Peyton, Caiden, Sean, Teagan, Evan, John, Liam, Luke, Daniel, and Andrew; and many nephews, nieces, and cousins. He was predeceased by a son-in-law, Martin A. Bania; a brother, John "Jack" R. Bacon; a sister, Nancy J. Bennett; and an uncle who was like a brother to him, Donald E. Gagne.

He was born in Spencer, son of the late Roger D. and Loretta F. (Grenon) Bacon Sr., and lived in Spencer before moving to Oxford in 1947. He graduated from Oxford High School in 1951 and received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Worcester State University. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of the Korean War.

Mr. Bacon was the principal at Oxford High School for 13 years, retiring in 1994. He began his career at Oxford High School in 1961 and worked as a math teacher, coach, guidance counselor, and assistant principal prior to becoming principal. Throughout his life he remained active in Oxford education and was a mentor to many. He served as chairman of the building committee during construction of the new high school building, and the gym was named the Roger D. Bacon Gymnasium in his honor. Through his time at the high school, Mr. Bacon and his wife proudly attended 69 proms.

Mr. Bacon was active in local sports. He was a member of the MIAA and was the Central Massachusetts Director of High School Basketball for 43 years. He was a fan of all the New England Sports Teams, and held season tickets for the UConn Girls Basketball team for many years. He was a dedicated educator and supporter of local sports inside and outside of the classroom, and he attended all sporting events and meetings to support the school.

Mr. Bacon served on many town committees in Oxford. He was named "Man of the Year" in Oxford and was known to many as Mr. Oxford. He was chairman of the Oxford Bicentennial Committee. He was a member of the First Congregational Church in Oxford and served on many church committees as well. He was a member of the Oxford Lodge of Masons for 70 years.

Mr. Bacon enjoyed spending time at his summer home on Sebago Lake in Maine. He was an avid fisherman, won many fishing awards, and enjoyed sharing his passion for fishing and Sebago Lake with others. He enjoyed square dancing and round dancing, and traveled around the country and Canada dancing.

Most of all, he loved spending time with his family. His wife Myrtle knew the importance of supporting education and sports as he did, and she remained by his side attending events and supporting sports for over 70 years.

A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the First Congregational Church, 355 Main St., Oxford. Burial with military funeral honors will follow at North Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours are Thursday, April 25, 2024, from 1-3 and 5-8 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Following the burial, a celebration of his life will be held at Point Breeze Restaurant in Webster, and everyone is invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Roger D. Bacon Jr. Scholarship Fund, c/o Webster Five Cents Savings, 343 Main St, Oxford, MA 01540, or to the First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 585, Oxford, MA 01540, or to the Worcester State University Alumni Association, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602.



Ronald P. (Ronnie) Kozlowski, 78



Oxford – Ronald P. (Ronnie) Kozlowski age 78 passed away Saturday, April 20, 2024, at Lanessa Extended Care in Webster. He leaves his wife of twelve years, Catherine A. (Lynch) Kozlowski,

a son Kevin Kozlowski and his wife Carmella of Spencer; a daughter Holly L. Slauenwhite and her husband Jason of Woodstock, CT; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Ronnie had a son and a brother who predeceased him, Scott Kozlowski who passed Feb. 25, 2024, of Port Richie, Florida and Fran Kozlowski of North Grosvenordale, CT.

He was born in Webster, the son of the late Frank Kozlowski and Tessie (Tuzinowski) Kozlowski, living in Oxford for the past six years prior to that living in Webster.

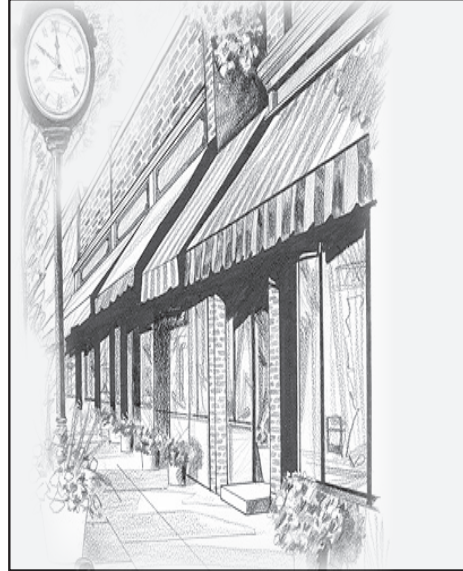
Ronnie enjoyed bingo, flea Markets, scratch tickets, golfing and quality time with family. There are no calling hours, and a private celebration of life will be held later for the family. Please omit flowers and donations may be made in his memory to the Webster-Dudley food bank.

The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

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



Community Connection



Charlton Oil
508-248-9797 Propane

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	Tanks Filled
0-50	\$5.70	300-500	\$2.55	to 80%
50-75	\$3.40	500 PLUS	\$2.40	Driver
75-150	\$3.05	Duel Fuel	\$3.75	Discretion
150-300	\$2.75	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00	

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
• Friday price 4/19/24 was **\$3.59** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT www.charltonoil.com
"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Crooked Creek Farm
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

Find Us on Social Media

**FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION
CALL 774-200-7308**

Dig, divide, and boost your garden's beauty

Overcrowded, poor flowering, and floppy perennials can be invigorated with a shovel and a bit of your time and energy. Dividing perennials is an excellent way to improve their appearance and create new plants to use in other spaces in your landscape.

As the old garden adage states "divide spring flowering perennials in late summer or early fall, divide fall bloomers in spring, and summer blooming perennials in either spring or fall." Some gardeners prefer to enjoy the spring blooms and divide soon after the flowers fade. Most gardeners have found the best time to divide is when they have the time and can provide proper post-transplanting care.

Reduce the stress on plants by dividing perenni-



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

als on a cloudy, overcast day when the plants won't dry out so quickly. Make sure the plants are well-watered a day or two in advance of dividing.

Dig up the whole plant using a garden fork or sharp spade, like Corona Tools' DigMaster Nursery Shovel (coronatools.com), with its narrow, hardened steel blade. A shovel with a long handle and narrow blade makes it easier to access plants in small and hard-to-reach spots in the flower garden.

Carefully lift the plant out of the soil. Depending on the plant and the tenacity of its roots, you may be able to gently pull the roots apart with your hands. Otherwise, use a sharp spade or knife, such as a Hori Hori garden knife, or a reciprocating saw to cut the plant into smaller sections. Some gardeners place two garden forks back-to-back in the center of the clump and pull the forks apart to make the divisions.

Discard the dead center, if needed, in the compost pile. Make sure each division has at least three to five healthy shoots and adequate roots. The larger the division, the quicker it will fill in the space and possibly need dividing sooner than smaller divisions.

Replant the divisions as soon as possible. In the

meantime, store them in a cool, shaded location and keep the roots covered and moist.

Prepare the soil before planting. You can plant one of the divisions in the original spot once the soil is amended. Use the others to fill in bare areas or start new garden beds. Dig a hole large enough to accommodate the roots. Plant the division at the same depth it was growing. Some gardeners set it slightly higher so it can settle in place. Either way, make sure the roots are not exposed and the crown, the part where the roots meet the stems, is not buried.

Gently firm the soil around the plant and water thoroughly. Check the soil moisture every few days and water deeply and often enough to keep the roots

slightly moist. Reduce your watering frequency as the plant begins to develop a more robust root system.

Start by dividing just one or two overgrown plants. As you master the technique, you will find it easier to divide perennials when needed to keep your gardens looking their best.

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 series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Corona Tools for her



Courtesy — Corona Tools

When dividing perennial plants use a sharp spade or Hori Hori garden knife to easily cut plants into smaller sections.

expertise in writing this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Home Spring Auto

A/C & HEATING

MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC DUCTLESS SPLIT HEAT-PUMPS

HEATING AIR CONDITIONING

Michael J. Williams

SHEET METAL FABRICATION

MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC

COOLING & HEATING

M.J. Williams Heating & AC, INC.

Serving the community since 1988

High Quality work at an affordable price

508-949-0035

www.mjwhvac.com

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

KEARNS

COLLISION REPAIR

Since 1969

Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal

Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services

Warrantied Work & Repairs

Diagnostics • A/C Repair

Tune Ups & Engine Repair

Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS

Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop

Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)

Northbridge, MA 01534

Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231

www.kearnscollision.com

Fully Certified • RS# 2678

BEST WINDOW COMPANY

KUBALA

HOME IMPROVEMENT

The Door and Window Experts

MACSL100114 | MAHIC150118 | CTHIC0619712

Award Winning High Performance Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | Lifetime Warranty

508-784-1550

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

BUILDER

Todd A. Ethier

TAE

B·U·I·L·D·E·R INCORPORATED

Remodeling Expert

- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
- ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
- ◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
- ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
- ◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985

Licensed & Insured

508-764-2293 ◆ 774-230-3967

Cleaning Services

HOUSE CLEANING AVAILABLE

Reasonable rates. Weekly, bi-weekly or monthly times available.

~ Bonded ~

Fully Vaccinated

Call Wendy for a FREE estimate at:

774-262-9166

Installations

BEST YET INSTALLATIONS

PLUMBING, ELECTRICAL & CARPENTRY

FULLY LICENSED AND INSURED

#4153C • 8376A1 • 191806

508-885-BEST

Exclusive Discounts for Seniors & Veterans

LAWNMOWERS

WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER

ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE

Snowblower & Generator Repair

Tractor Service

Tune-Ups & Repairs

Pickup & Delivery

508-987-2775

492 Main St Oxford

WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER.COM

PEST CONTROL

ACCURATE PEST CONTROL

Full Pest Control Services

Over 30 years experience

Reasonable Rates

Owner Operated

508-757-8078

Ask for David or Jason Hight

Auburn MA

Stump Grinding

MILLER STUMP GRINDING

Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified

Fully Insured • Free Quotes

REASONABLE RATES

PROMPT SERVICE

ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER

OWNERS / OPERATORS

508-688-2159

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

news@stonebridgepress.news

GUTTERS

GUTTER CLEANINGS

30+ years exp Licensed & Insured

508-523-0414

A. Eagle Gutters

aeaglegutters.com

MASONRY

C J

MASONRY HARDSCAPE

RETAINING WALLS

OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION

Chimney Repair

Foundation Repair

Steps, Patios

Pool Surrounds

Pressure Washing

Property Maintenance

Water Proofing

Delivery of Aggregate

Cord Wood

Brian French

(413)222-5542

frenchym45@gmail.com

GJ LEDUC PAINTING

Interior and Exterior

Power Washing

Wallpapering

General Repair

Fully Insured

Over 40+ Years Experience

508-764-8548

774-230-8373

For Advertising Information, Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Advertise on this page for one low price! Get 7 papers. 774-200-7308

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

For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

PAINTING

Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS

Finest Craftsmanship Since 1979

Interior-Exterior Paints, Stains, Wallpaper and Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Free Estimates

774.452.0321

Plastering

Glenn LeBlanc PLASTERING

Plastering small jobs; additions, ceilings, bathrooms, remodels, patches.

Over 40 Years Experience.

Quality Workmanship

Insured

CALL **508-612-9573**

Plumbing

MIKE LAMBERT'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St, Ste 4

Spencer, MA

1-833-969-4330

Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDH@GMAIL.COM

ROOFING

David Barbale ROOFING

Roofing/Gutters

Repair Work

Fully Licensed and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127

MA HIC. LIC #1079721

INS. #CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709

O: 508-248-6709

davidbarbale.com

ROOFING

GUARANTEED BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Roofing, siding, gutter cleaning, gutter repairs, Certainteed Shingle Master Certified!

Contact Daniel Truax **508-450-7472** call or text gbmaintco.com

Senior Citizen Discount

Credit Cards Accepted

Over 30 years of satisfied customers

Fully Insured - Free Estimates

Financing Available

A+ Rating BBB

Mass CSL #099487

Mass HIC number 124019

Connecticut, HIC number 0665243

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING

Read our reviews at the Better Business Bureau. A+ rating and accredited member since 2009.

Call Bill Toll-Free **1-866-961-Roof**

508-765-0100

Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955

CSL #095459

CT-HIC #0638641

Fully Insured.

Free Estimates

Family Owned and Operated

Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards

Financing Available

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

Latest antiques and collectibles news

It's been nearly a month since my last column on auction news. With the royal family in the headlines recently, the upcoming sale of Princess Diana's dresses, suits, shoes, and accessories is making news in the auction world. This is the largest collection of Princess Di's belongings to be auctioned since 1997, according to the

Robb Report. Diana was known for bold sweaters and gowns that were considered too flashy for the conservative royal family. She also advocated for AIDS awareness and other charities that were atypical of the royal family. Auction highlights include a two-piece yellow and navy suit that she wore while visiting the British Forces in

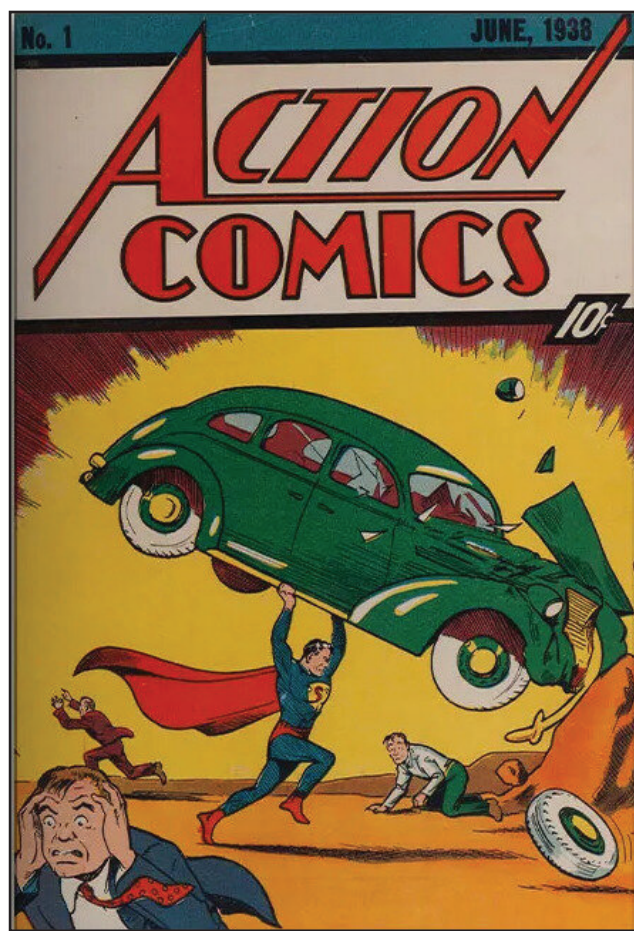
Hong Kong in 1989. It has an estimate of \$30,000 to \$50,000. A floral dress that she wore to St. Mary's Hospital in 1991 is expected to bring between \$50,000 and \$100,000. A silk and lace dress she wore in London and Hamburg in 1987 could fetch between \$100,000 and \$200,000. Another top item is a "Diamante Star gown by Arbeid (esti-

mate: \$200,000 to \$400,000) that Diana wore to the Phantom of the Opera premiere and a dinner with King Constantine of Greece in 1986," according to the Robb Report.

Some books dating back centuries are also making auction news. The collection comes from the estate of Jay M. Pasachoff. Pasachoff was an astronomy professor at Williams College in Western Massachusetts. One book being sold is by Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) who was a German astronomer who discovered three laws of planetary motion. The Robb Report writes that the rare Kepler book "the Mysterium Cosmographicum" once sat in the library of Frederick the Great and is estimated to sell for \$120,000. Kepler's Astronomia nova from 1609 is expected to sell for even more (\$300,000 to \$500,000). Two books by Galileo are also being offered.

The Honeyman copy of his Dialogo could bring \$80,000 to \$120,000. His Sidereus Nuncius from 1610 could reach \$300,000 to \$500,000. Sir Isaac Newton's Principia in contemporary vellum from 1687 is expected to sell for \$400,000 to \$600,000. The star of the astronomy auction is Copernicus's De revolutionibus orbium coelestium. The groundbreaking book offered the controversial opinion that earth and the other planets revolved around the sun at a time when the earth was generally considered to be the center of the universe. The auction estimate is \$1 to \$1.5 million.

A very different kind of book set an auction record recently. A copy of the first appearance of



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

Superman, Action Comics No. 1 sold this month. The 1938 comic book graded an 8.5 out of 10. Only 78 of these comics have been graded and about 100 are estimated to exist, according to the Smithsonian Magazine.

Superman's writer Jerry Siegel and illustrator Joe Shuster were both sons of Jewish immigrants. The comic book was described as "a reflection of [Superman's] creators' experiences, as well as the American dream." In 1939, Superman got his own comic book, Superman No. 1. A copy of that issue sold for \$5.3 million in 2022. Action Comics No. 1 flew up, up and away setting a comic

book auction record of \$6 million.

We aren't selling 1930s Superman comics, but have many other desirable ones in our May comics and sports collectibles auction. We are still accepting gold jewelry, sterling silverware, art, coins, and other antiques and collectibles consignments for our summer auction. I'll be presenting at the Holden Senior Center on April 22. I'll also be at a Learning in Retirement event in Danielson, Connecticut on May 6. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to other upcoming events.

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

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$759,900, 42 Briarcliff Dr, Godek, Joseph G, and Godek, Barbara M, to To, Alex.
\$548,000, 9 Fox Run Cir, Dependable Hm Soln LLC, to Mcdonald, Anne M, and Mcdonald, Scott D.
\$509,000, 99 Tinkerhill Rd, Turcotte, David W, and Turcotte, Deborah E, to Orsi, Chase, and Orsi, Katelyn.
\$430,000, 6 Buron Ter, Flasher, Jonathan A, and Savi, Stephanie A, to Li, Qian Z.
\$407,000, 39 Pinehurst Ave, Federal Natl Mtg Assn, to Ortiz, Zulia Y.
\$375,000, 31 Shore Dr, Dufresne, Gerard J, and Dufresne, Maryann, to Lopez, Daniel E, and Echeagaray, Phoebe A.
\$290,000, 502 Heritage Ln #502, Thurston Rt, and Thurston, William F, to Franchi-Looney, S A.

DUDLEY

\$426,000, 44 Eagle Dr, Main, Daniel C, and Main, Leann M, to Melanson, David J, and Melanson, Nicole A.

OXFORD

\$450,000, 5 Melvin Dr, Casey, Kevin P, and Casey, Kelley E, to Motrucinski, Joseph T, and Motrucinski, Carolyn R.
\$385,000, 7 Sherwood Dr, Lenox Hill Properties LLC, to Potoczniak, Agnieszka A.
\$365,000, 6 Burbank St, Rood, Michael J, and Rood, Marion I, to Alleca, Nicole.
\$360,000, 25 Pine St, Hartley, Keely A, and Cronin, Declan, to Loiselle, Linda A.
\$349,000, 38 Fairlawn Ave, 38 Fairlawn Avenue T, and Bolton, Michael R, to Hunter-Mason, Ethan J, and Flandreau, Madison L.
\$314,000, 9 Barton St, Scherer,

Sarah, and Belliveau, Zachary, to Quintanilla, Feliciano H, and Dehernandez, Sindy M.
\$280,000, 382 Main St, Konga, Regina, to Borowski, Michelle K.
\$250,000, 10 Thayer Pond Dr #17, Taylor, Kimberly N, and Ohare, Martin P, to Beret, Rachida.
\$235,000, 1 Thayer Pond Dr #30-1, Bathgate Cynthia L Est, and Proctor, Charles F, to Laprad, Peter M, and Laprad, Donna M.
\$210,000, 14 Thayer Pond Dr #12, Ohare, Deborah, to Traina, Mary.
\$203,500, 30 Thayer Pond Dr #4, Matus, Robert W, to Hale, Linda.
\$85,000, Hope Ave, Crowley, Lawrence S, and Crowley, Mary L, to Vuong, Thanh.

WEBSTER

\$975,000, 67 Wawela Rd, Jennifer Dolbashian T, and Dolbashian, Jennifer D, to David Candow RET, and Candow, David.
\$500,000, 83 Lake St, 2 Jalbs LLC, to Kawa LLC.
\$410,000, 20 Klebart Ave, Slipski, Laura L, to Dipaolo, Gabriele.
\$390,000, 11 Browns Brook Rd, Santos, Lidiane C, to Capellan, Christian.
\$350,000, 204 Lower Gore Rd, Hod, Eitan, to Silber, Daniel, and Terlizzi, Gabrielle.
\$300,000, 14 Nelson St, Nowak, Nicholas W, and Nowak, Sheri M, to 14 Nelson St LLC.
\$300,000, 222 Gore Rd, Nguyen, Huong T, to King, Jacob P.
\$195,000, 37 Tower St, Shea, Isabella H, and Us Bank TNA Tr, to Doug Will LLC.
\$182,000, 13S Point Rd, Gargulinski, Anthony, to Caron, Melissa L.
\$125,000, 34 Eastern Ave #K, Eggleston, Tracey L, to Heavenly Hm Solutions LLC.

LEGALS

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
24 SM 001494
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Terry R. Gaspie; Nicole Gaspie and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq): Freedom Mortgage Corporation claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 8 Pineview Trail, given by Nicole Gaspie and Terry R. Gaspie to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, dated October 31, 2016, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56255, Page 382, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated June 12, 2019 and recorded at said Registry in Book 60706, Page 382 and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **May 27, 2024** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on **April 12, 2024**. Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
April 26, 2024

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 Shawn W. Cierpich

to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., dated February 3, 2006 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38497, Page 289 (the "Mortgage"), as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated August 28, 2012, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 50089, Page 62 of which mortgage US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust is the present holder by Assignment from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC dated February 10, 2015 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 53443, Page 107, and Assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. dated November 19, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61450, Page 81, and Assignment from Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. to US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust dated March 22, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 67505, Page 389, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 180 Ramshorn Road, Dudley, MA 01571 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on May 21, 2024, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:
The land situated in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:
LOT #4
BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northwest corner of tract herein described on the Easterly sideline of the 1936 Worcester County Highway layout of Ramshorn Road at the Southwest corner of Lot #3; THENCE S 70° 15 minutes 20 seconds E along said Lot 3 a distance of one hundred one and ten hundredths (101.10) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 87° 38 minutes 47 seconds E along said Lot 3 a distance of two hundred fifty and no hundredths (250.00) feet to a drill hole in a stonewall; THENCE S 14° 34 minutes 09 seconds E along a stonewall and land of Charles J. and Annabelle Moninski, now or formerly, a distance of five hundred forty-nine and fifty-seven hundredths

(549.57) feet to a point in said stonewall; THENCE S 15° 43 minutes 48 seconds W along a stonewall and said Moninski land a distance of one hundred and ninety-seven hundredths (100.97) feet to an iron pipe in a corner of walls; THENCE S 79° 09 minutes 14 seconds W mostly along a stonewall and said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred forty-nine and seventy-four hundredths (149.74) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE S 78° 14 minutes 58 seconds W mostly along a stonewall and said Cierpich land a distance of two hundred forty-one and forty-one hundredths (241.41) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 17° 20 minutes 48 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred sixty and nineteen hundredths (160.19) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 12° 09 minutes 48 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred eighty-three and thirty-five hundredths (183.35) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 23° 50 minutes 04 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred forty-four and three hundredths (144.03) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 83° 25 minutes 32 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred fifty-six and forty-nine hundredths (156.49) feet to a point; THENCE N 26° 52 minutes 29 seconds E along said Cierpich land a distance of sixty and forty-one hundredths (60.41) feet to an iron pipe on the easterly sideline of Ramshorn Road; THENCE running northerly along the easterly sideline and said Ramshorn Road on a curve to the left having a radius of 530.00 feet and a length of 245.23 feet to the point of beginning. The above described tract contains an area of 6.5734 acres. BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO SHAWN W. CIERPICH, UNSTATED BY DEED FROM SHAWN W. CIERPICH AND LESLIE J. CIERPICH RECORDED 09/15/2000 IN DEED BOOK 23002 PAGE 127. IN THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS PLAN FOR WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.
For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 23002, Page 127.
The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or

other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.
Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.
Other terms to be announced at the sale.
US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Cierpich, Shawn W., 16-027448
April 26, 2024
May 3, 2024
May 10, 2024
TOWN OF WEBSTER WATER SEWER COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE-The Webster Water Sewer Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 02, 2024 at 7:15PM at the Town Hall in the Selectman's Meeting Room, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA, to establish FY 2025 Water and Sewer Rates. The hearing will include a Water and Sewer rate study presentation from Tighe & Bond. All interested parties are invited to attend.
April 19, 2024
April 26, 2024

LEGALS

TOWN OF DUDLEY MASSACHUSETTS CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Dudley Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act MGL Chapter 131, Section 40, to consider a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by the Town of Dudley Highway Department relative to Buffer Zone activities associated with roadway and sidewalk improvements at the intersection of Dudley Hill Road, Airport Road, and Tanyard Road in Dudley, Massachusetts.

The hearing will be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 6:00 pm in Veterans' Hill Room 321A of the Dudley Municipal complex at 71 West Main Street. To view the Request for Determination of Applicability, contact the Conservation Commission at (508) 949-8011.

Any person interested or wishing to be heard should appear at the time and place designated.

April 26, 2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO24P1235EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Clarence Richard Stockwell
Also known as:
Clarence R. Stockwell
Date of Death: 02/15/2024**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Patricia M. Stockwell of Charlton MA and Betty Ann Rambarran of Charlton MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

Patricia M. Stockwell of Charlton MA and Betty Ann Rambarran of Charlton MA

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/14/2024.**

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: April 12, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

April 26, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Melissa Glidden to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC, dated May 25, 2021 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65266, Page 278, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans, LLC, its successors and assigns to Rocket Mortgage, LLC, FKA Quicken Loans, LLC, recorded on March 9, 2022, in Book No. 67240, at Page 3

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on May 28, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 10 Elm Street, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

A certain parcel of land with the building thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in Town of Webster, Worcester county, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, further bounded and described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin in the ground on the Northerly side of Elm Street at the Southwest corner of the granted premises; Thence Northerly by land of one Daniel F. Casey, now or formerly, one hundred thirty-nine (139) feet, more or less, to a pin at wall on land of A.J. Bates Company, now or formerly; (by field survey 129 feet); Thence Easterly by said wall fifty (50) feet to an iron pin; Thence Southerly by land of said Daniel F. Casey, now or formerly, one hundred forty-five (145) feet to said Elm Street at an iron pin: (by field survey 134 feet); Thence by said Elm Street Westerly fifty (50) feet to the point of beginning. For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65266, Page 275.

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.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

24650

April 26, 2024

May 3, 2024

May 10, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jessica Figueroa Rodriguez to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD, dated December 17, 2021 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66778, Page 280, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated April 26, 2023, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 69158, Page 249, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD, its successors and assigns to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, recorded on March 24, 2023, in Book No. 68949, at Page 326 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on May 21, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 8 Pine Street, Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

Two common tracts of land, together with the buildings thereon, situated in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts and described as follows:

TRACT I

The land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging situated in the easterly part of said Dudley and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner thereof, at a point on the northerly line of Pine Street, two hundred ninety-eight (298) feet from the westerly line of Oxford Avenue;

THENCE northerly by land now or formerly of Henry Roomer, and parallel with said Oxford Avenue one hundred thirty-two (132) feet;

THENCE westerly by land formerly of Stevens Linen Works and parallel with said Pine Street sixty-six (66) feet;

THENCE southerly by land of said Works and parallel with said Roomer's line, one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to Pine Street;

THENCE easterly by said Pine Street sixty-six (66) feet to point of beginning. Containing 8,712 square feet.

Excepting from the above described tract a piece of land sold to the Southern New England railroad Company on October 22, 1912, by deed recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Book 2009, Page 102 bounded and described as follows:

A Little triangle beginning at the southwesterly corner; thence northerly forty-eight (48) feet, thence easterly twenty-six feet; thence southwesterly fifty-six (56) feet to the point of beginning.

TRACT II

The land in the easterly part of said Dudley, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at southeasterly corner of land to be conveyed, on the northerly side of Pine Street and being the southwesterly corner of land of Kazimierz Hajec, o/k/a Charles Hazec, now or formerly shown as Lot No. 26, on Plat of Stevens Linen Works;

THENCE running northerly on westerly line of said Lot No. 26, for a distance of about eighty-four (84) feet to a point forty (40) feet distant easterly at right angles from center line of location of the Southern New England Railroad Corporation;

THENCE running and turning north-easterly on line parallel to and forty (40) feet distant from said center line for a distance of about fifty-six (56) feet to the northerly line of said Lot No. 26; THENCE turning and running easterly along said northerly line for a distance of about forty (40) feet to the northeast corner of said Lot No. 26;

THENCE turning and running northerly on easterly line of Lot No.43 of said Plat for a distance of thirty (30) feet; THENCE turning and running westerly on line parallel to northerly line of Pine Street for a distance of thirty-seven (37) feet to a point;

THENCE turning and running southwesterly by direct line about one hundred eighty (180) feet to a point in the northerly line of Pine Street that is fifty (50) feet westerly from the point of beginning.

THENCE turning and running easterly by Pine Street fifty (50) feet to the point of beginning.

CONTAINING 4,257 square feet of land, more or less, and comprising parts of Lots No. 26, 43 and 27 of said Plat of Steven's Linen Works.

This conveyance is made subject to an easement of Webster and Southbridge Gas & Electric Company as of record in Book 2585, page 541, Worcester district Registry of Deeds and to any restrictions and easements of record.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66778, Page 275.

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.

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500

25175

April 19, 2024

April 26, 2024

May 3, 2024

DUDLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A **Public Hearing** will be held at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street in Dudley at 6:15 PM on May 8, 2024, to consider a **Notice of Intent** of Thao Vo for the property located at:

40 Lakeview Ave Dudley for the construction of an addition and a porch at the back of the existing dwelling This is a Public Hearing under the requirements of G.L. CH. 131 §40, as amended. Plans are available at the Dudley Conservation office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 11:30-4:30 PM. For more information, call 508-949-8011
April 26, 2024

Notice Content

TOWN OF WEBSTER WATER SEWER COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE-The Webster Water Sewer Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, May 02, 2024 at 6:30PM at the Town Hall in the Selectman's Meeting Room, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA.

The hearing will include an update from Tighe & Bond on the Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance "PFAS6" including constructions costs. A representative from MassDEP will also be present to answer any questions. All interested parties are invited to attend.
April 26, 2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO24P0592EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Stephen Adam Ross
Date of Death: 02/03/2024**

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by

Martha Ross Tobias of Rhineback NY and Priscilla A. Ross requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that:

Priscilla A. Ross of North Chelmsford MA and Martha Ross Tobias

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/21/2024.**

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: April 18, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

April 26, 2024

For Legal Advertising Information

Call

508-909-4127

email:

legals@

stonebridge press.

news

GATEWAY

continued from page A1

ing sources available for these projects, including American Rescue Plan Act funding, Community Development Block Grant funds, Massachusetts Downtown Initiative money, loan-interest loans, local fundraising, and more. However, every big project starts somewhere and right now the EDC and CMRPC are simply trying to determine how to proceed. Part of that is to decide whether to bring in third party partners to help manage the project, something Town Planner Bill Scanlon feels would be beneficial to Dudley.

"It seems like the management of this program would be a lot of work and Dudley doesn't really have the resources in-house," said Scanlon. "I think we need to find some entity that would be qualified and skilled at doing this kind of work. If we can get a program to fund them to set it up, I think that would be the first step. It's a lot of work just getting the program off the ground, so we need someone who has experience in this kind of activity to do that for us."

Scanlon later stressed that the town should first focus on improving the public sector, such as streetscapes, which will help encourage businesses to want to get involved with the initiative in the long run.

EDC member Mark Marzeotti, a member of both the Webster Dudley Business Alliance and the Webster Dudley Oxford Chamber of Commerce, said he feels the EDC should focus on bringing

the business owners on board rather than starting with the landlords.

"I don't think it's the property owner that we necessarily appeal to, I think it's the business owner that's renting from the property owner and use them as our media to get through to the property owner - I definitely think that approaching the business owner as opposed to the building owner is certainly the way to go, but I think there's a way that we can approach both," Marzeotti said.

Marzeotti later stated he feels the gateway plan is "definitely doable" and something he can "envision happening." It's just a matter of determining how to proceed and earn support.

In the meantime, CMRPC has challenged the Dudley EDC to conduct a survey among themselves to determine what street improvements should be prioritized. The next step for the plans is to dive deeper into streetscape design and determine how they would like to make improvements to town properties with the intent of working with local businesses and landlords to improve facades over time.

The EDC also had a discussion regarding another gateway improvement initiative, a welcome sign. Dudley currently has \$10,000 in grant money available to add the sign, but the EDC needs to decide a proper location and whether they would like to invest in signs for every entry into town, as well as what material, information, and message they want to have included before they proceed.

SAINT JOSEPH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WEBSTER — The following students have been named to the honor roll at St. Joseph School for the third term of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Grade 4
High Honors: Jon Belanger, Charlotte Dollar, Amadeusz Gacek, Kirolos Ibrahim, Allen Jean-Paul, Severyn Kuznecki, Mileydi Loja, Johnny Marcuccio, Mathieu Prunier, Elixander Salome-Negron, Charles Smith, Marina Szydlik.
Honors: Armani Cedeno, Andrew Hachigian, Connor Kippax.

Grade 5
High Honors: Bella Kicilinski, Evelyn Macko, Jacob Manzi, Lily

Martin, Amelia Potem, Abby Rubin, Sophia Surowaniec.
Honors: Ari Benson, Grayson Dollar, Lukas Stock, James Miranda, Gabriel Ketnouvong-Ung.

Grade 6
High Honors: Kalleia Agosto, Hayley Benes.
Honors: Tosin Akindele, Alexis Archambault, Avery Archambault, Lukas Barbosa, Jason Bianchi, Tenleigh Dowd, Mychael Jones, Neli Kuznecki, Jacob Marcuccio
Credit: Ivonka Waranjtys.

Grade 7
High Honors: Tobi Akindele, Rosemary Basha, Jada Jackson, Simon Kowalczyk, Kyle Muchiru,

Faith Muga, Jacob Parafinowicz, Ayla Reed, Alan Rubin, Luke Surowaniec, Liana Worth.
Honors: Ryan Amaral, Gianna Pigeon, Zosia Pawlikowska, Arianna Rivers.
Credit: Lisa Kippax, Jake Martin, Adam Wozniak.

Grade 8
High Honors: Claire Calnan, Molly Hachigian, Jack Keller, Laura Ibrahim, Emily Macko, Ella Parslow, Max Podgorny.
Honors: KateLyn Baillergeon, Nevaeh Bourgeois, Gabriel Gallant, Ryan Grupposo, Alan Kulpa, Violet Johnson, Alvin Montreuil.
Credit: Reniels Garcia, Tristan Pico, Mya Medina.

Emerson College student Samantha Zannotti earns national academic ratings for cross country

BOSTON — The Emerson College Women's Cross Country Team earned All-Academic Team honors for the 2023 NCAA Division III season. Announced by the U.S Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, the team placed 13th in the nation with a team GPA of 3.81.

Samantha Zannotti, from Dudley is majoring in Sports Communication and is a member of the Class of 2025. A member of the New England Men's and Women's Athletics Conference (NEWMAC) since the 2013-2014 academic year, Emerson College supports 14 Men's and Women's Division 3 intercollegiate sports, including baseball, softball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's tennis, and men's and women's volleyball.

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, D.C., 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.

Enhanced WPI transfer programs open new vistas for QCC students



Courtesy

Back row: QCC Assistant Vice President of Academic Affairs Kevin Li, QCC Dean of the School of Business, Engineering & Technology Shunda Ware, QCC Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs Kathy Rentsch, WPI Interim Dean of Undergraduate Studies Arne Gericke, WPI Dean of the Business School Debora Jackson, QCC Vice President for Strategic Enrollment & Student Engagement Michelle Tufau, WPI Interim Senior Vice President and Provost Art Heiricher. Front row: QCC President Dr. Luis Pedraja and WPI President Dr. Grace Wang.

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College and Worcester Polytechnic Institute have signed an institutional articulation agreement for QCC students transferring into WPI, guaranteeing them admission to WPI when they meet program requirements.

Since 1989, more than 400 QCC students have transferred into WPI after completing their associate degree. Now, with the signing of this new agreement, there will be expanded pathways for transfer students, ensuring more individuals have access to the education and training needed to meet workforce demands in STEM fields.

"WPI has always been a strategic partner with QCC and through this new agreement, our two institutions stand in commitment that higher education for all can be a reality. Furthermore, this agreement demonstrates that there can be access for talented community college students, particularly those from first-generation and minority backgrounds to selective institutions like WPI," said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "This is an important day for QCC and WPI, as well as our region."

"Deepening our ties with community colleges is vital as they serve as the gateway to higher education for numerous students," said WPI President Grace Wang. "By establishing pathways that reduce barriers and offer built-in support, we make obtaining a four-year degree more accessible for QCC students. Moreover, the strategic partnership between QCC and WPI will help meet today's workforce demands and foster regional economic growth."

Under the new articulation agreement, QCC students with an associate degree who have successfully completed a college-level precalculus or Calculus I course, a college-level laboratory science course and have earned a 3.3 or higher GPA will be guaranteed admission to WPI. QCC students who have not yet completed their associate degree but have a minimum 3.0 GPA and have successfully completed a college-level precalculus or calculus 1 course and successfully completed a college-level laboratory science course may be offered admission to transfer to a bachelor's degree program at WPI.

Upon admission, students are eligible for certain transfer-student support programs and opportunities at WPI, including a designated advisor in the Academic Advising Office and a staff liaison in the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

QCC transfer students will also have immediate access to WPI's Career Development Center and summer research opportunities. In addition, admitted students will be required to take a semester-long transfer transition program and receive a summer undergraduate course tuition waiver for one course taken in each of two summers, during their enrollment at WPI. Additional opportunities are available for qualified students to pursue graduate programming upon enrollment at WPI.

Information about admissions and application requirements for transfer students as well as transfer agreements can be found at www.wpi.edu/+transfer.

DCLT

continued from page A1

be enjoyed respectfully by the public.

The mission of the Dudley Conservation Land Trust is to provide for, and promote the conservation, acquisition and protection of land and open space for education, passive recreation, wildlife habitat, and the preservation of the rural, natural and scenic character of the Town of Dudley for current and future generations. For more information about us, visit us at <https://dudleyclt.org/>.

DESANTIS

continued from page A1

and believe he is the right candidate to assume the permanent role," said Lamarche.

DeSantis was present for the announcement and presented himself as humble and ready to get to work.

"I did see the history of the search so I'm definitely happy and thankful to be selected and looking forward to working with everybody," said DeSantis.

The new Director of Finance and Operations brings with him a wealth of experience in different areas of finance. DeSantis has served as the Finance

Director for Little Compton in Rhode Island since 2020, Assistant Vice President of Finance Risk for the Citizen's Financial Group, and the Office of Risk and Finance for State Street Bank and Trust. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Rhode Island College and an MBA from Curry College. His start date with the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District is dependent on contract negotiations. Camie Lamica, the District's Treasurer, who has served as interim Director of Finance and Operations since Mathieu's departure, will serve as a mentor to help DeSantis transition to his new role.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests March 31 to April 13.

Michelle Mari Cernas-Rodriguez, age 23, of Webster was arrested on April 3 for Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

Gavin J. Barszcz, age 28, of Webster was arrested on April 3 as a Fugitive From Justice on a Court Warrant.

Ricard A. Dejesus, age 36, of Webster was arrested on April 3 in connection with a warrant.

A 47-year-old female from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 5 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

A 31-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 6 for Assault on a Family or Household Member (subsequent offense), Threatening to Commit a Crime, Violation of an Abuse Prevention Order; Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace (subsequent offense), Resisting Arrest, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, and multiple counts of Vandalization of Property and Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

A 46-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 8 for Assault & Battery on a person Over the Age of 60 and/or Disabled.

A 29-year-old male from Worcester whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 9 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member, Intimidation of a Witness, Juror, Police Officer, or Court Official, and multiple counts of Vandalization of Property.

Bryanna Florence Guenette, age 35, of Webster was arrested on April 9 in connection with a warrant.

Stephen R. Rosenson, age 56, of Webster was arrested on April 10 in connection with a warrant.

Mistirain Bow Regimbal, age 30, of Webster was arrested on April 11 for Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, Possession of a Class C Drug (subsequent offense), Possession of a Class C Drug, Conspiracy to Violate Drug Law, and multiple counts of Distribution of a Class B Drug. Gerard Paul Shonbeck, age 36, of Webster was arrested during the same incident for Possession of a Class B Drug with Intent to Distribute, Possession of a Class B Drug, Possession of a Class C Drug, and multiple counts of Distribution of a Class B Drug.

A 50-year-old male from Oxford whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 11 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Deseree M. Dion, age 34, of Southbridge was arrested on April 13 for Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol and Speeding in Violation of a Special Regulation.

Home Town Service, BIG TIME RESULTS
Town-to-Town CLASSIFIEDS
Place your ad today!
774-200-7308
VISA, MasterCard, Discover

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:
WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Rags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 40 years' experience.
Call David (508) 688-0847.
I'LL COME TO YOU!

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:
Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need.
24/7 Support
Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus. Call For Details.
Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care. (508) 829-6769

TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE
Rutland, MA
28th Annual Town Wide Yard Sale
Sat. April 27
200+ participants
Maps at town lines and on Common (Rts 122A and 56) starting at 7:15 AM
Rain or Shine ~ Join the Fun!

Advertise Here

Devereux
ADVANCED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



REAL ESTATE



HOPE
REAL ESTATE GROUP
43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Finest Realtor Associates to Serve You!

hope2own.com
508.943.4333

Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

We Want Your Listings!




Featured Open House!!
WEBSTER- 38 RAY STREET UNIT#3

SUNDAY 12-1:30PM

Condominium Don't Miss this one!! Beautiful & Large! 2 bedroom - 2nd & 3rd floor! Corner Lot. Land area 19,000 Sq. Ft. +/- **NOW ONLY \$239,900.**


* June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Bryan Pelletier

WEBSTER - 96 CHASE AVE
OPEN HOUSE SUN 4/28 11 am to 2 pm




New to the Market - Owner Occupied 2 Family Extremely Well Cared For - Many Important Updates. Don't Miss This One!
\$359,900

WEBSTER-22 HALL RD



1st Time Offered!! Young 2200 Sq ft Cape. This one can be your's! Young 2200+ Sq ft Cape/Split 7+ Room, 4 bdrs. 3 full baths! Master bed/Bath! Bonus - finished stairway to the massive unfinished 2nd floor. 3/4 Acre of land mostly Landscaped. Kitchen w/Island & dining room. Hardwood, ceramic, & carpet flrs. Heated 2 car garage, Sailing Assoc. very close by., beach, boat ramp., So much more!
NOW \$559,900

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE
OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 12-2



BEING BUILT!!
SPRAWLING 2000 SF RANCH HOME!
1/2 acre Lot! OPEN FLOOR PLAN. Living room, dining room, upscaled kitchen with 7' island, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, Beautiful Hardwood Floors! central air. 2 car garage
\$614,500

WEBSTER - 18 EASTERN AVE.



This property offers a whole lot more than meets the eye! 2 BRs & 1 Bath, 1st flr. 1 -2 Brs & 1 Bath 2nd flr. A rear open porch provides a private space & scenic views has DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL.
\$399,000.

WEBSTER - 22 COOPER ROAD

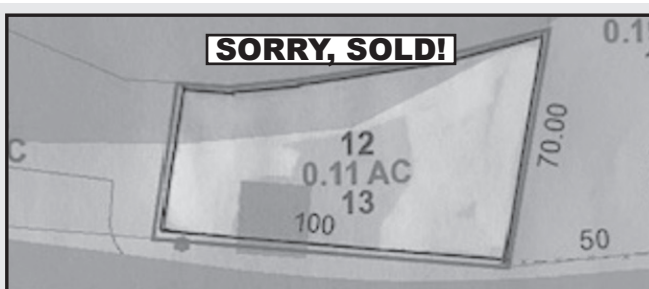


New Construction Gorgeous 2250 +/- SQ FT Colonial. 4 brms, 2-1/2 Bath. Open Concept 1st flr, Crown Mouldings, High End Cabinetry W/ Island, Granite Counters. Hardwood Flooring throughout, MASTER SUITE - WALK IN Closet, High MASTER BATH! 2 car Garage, Close to Lakeside Beach & Boat Ramp! 2nd one of 4 To Be Built!
\$549,000

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake
13 South Point Rd.

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



Your Lake Home Here!

PUT YOUR TRUST IN US
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254
Vicki Bennett, Client Coordinator
Jenna Gouin, Client Coordinator
ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

CHARLTON-
New to the Market
*Overlooks a bubbling brook and wooded lot *3 BR plus office or sitting room *Fireplace *22' Livingroom *Family Room

91 Blood Rd \$499,900

CHARLTON-
2400 sq. ft. Colonial
*4 BR * 2.5 Baths
*Kitchen w/ Hickory cabinets
*Pristine Condition
*Fireplace/Familyroom

93 Haggerty Rd \$659,900

HOLDEN
55+ Community
*2.5 Baths *Hardwood Floors
*Gas Fireplace
*1st Floor Familyroom

48 Tea Party Circle \$580,000

DUDLEY-
Motivated Seller
*3 BR *Newly Carpeted
*New Septic *Town Water
*Kitchen/Dining Room

316 Dresser Hill Rd \$300's

SOUTHBRIDGE-
22x20' Livingroom
*Familyroom *1.5 Baths
*Above Ground Pool
*22" Kitchen *Den with Stove

34 Ridge Rd \$300's

Don't WAIT
Until your
Open House
to Find You
New Home
Buyer
Representative
Available



REAL ESTATE




MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS
Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.
To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Maureen Cimoch
Real Estate Consultant
Cell 508-769-9211



111 East Main St., Webster, MA
Professional-Personable-Knowledgeable
Specializing in waterfront property
Servicing all Central MA • GO WITH MOE!
maurencimoch@gmail.com

REAL ESTATE REDEFINED



49 MAIN STREET, STURBRIDGE, MA

Patrick Sweeney
Realtor
License #9529769
(774) 452-3578

Carrie Alysath
Realtor
License #904677
(508) 641-0150

Licensed in MA and CT

"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"
ReMax Professional Associates
Licensed in MA & CT
We need properties to sell - any type!
Conrad Allen
508.400.0438
callen1995@aol.com



RE/MAX Professional Associates

ERA Key Realty
SERVICES

"Put 39 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"

Donna Flannery Realtor®
508-612-6771
Donnaflanneryrealtor.com
Donnaflannery@erakey.net

Kayleen Flannery Sauvageau
Realtor®
508-612-9843
Kayleen00@aol.com

YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERT SINCE 1991
NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE
TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME
ERA HALL OF FAME

415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562

Sandi Grzyb
LAER Realty Partners
I look forward to serving you in all of your real estate ventures!
• Buying
• Selling
• Investing

50 Years in the Real Estate Business!

Contact Info:
774.230.3500/508.943.6960
sandigrzyb@aol.com



255 Park Avenue, Suite 704,
Worcester, MA 01609

Time for a change?



Mary Vigliatura Stolarczyk
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame
508.612.1382
MESRealty.com
Mary@WillSellit.com



COMING SOON!!!
AUBURN
4 Room, 2 Bedroom Cape, Sided, Recent Windows, Furnace, Roof, Country Setting \$275,000
Call Jo-Ann 774-230-5044



Jo-Ann Szymczak
CRS, GRI, SRES
508-943-7669
774-230-5044

Maria Reed 508-873-9254

ReMax Vision
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS
Licensed in MA & CT



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
Gentle Yoga
Mondays in May
10:00-11:00 in the Fels Community Room
Join Jia Borgia, certified yoga instructor, for traditional “on the mat” yoga class with 15 minute relaxation at the end. Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class.

Yoga
Thursday, May 2
6:00-7:00 in the Fels Community Room
Join Jia Borgia, certified yoga instructor, for traditional “on the mat” yoga class with 15 minute relaxation at the end. Bring your own mat. Wear layers, do not eat heavily 1.5-2 hours before class.

Nancy Drew Presentation
Thursday, May 9
6:30-7:45
Come learn about the history of the beloved sleuth Nancy Drew! At this presentation, you will learn about the many

different editions that have been printed since the Nancy Drew series was first published in the 1930s, as well as surprising facts about the series.
The presenter, Alicia Mello, is a passionate collector and expert on Nancy Drew.
Bring your Nancy Drew books and your memories to share with the group. Mello will be able to tell you about your book and also its potential value. She has been collecting Nancy Drew books and other items for 20 years and loves to talk about the history of Nancy Drew! She will bring some interesting pieces from her collection. All welcome, and all ages are welcome.

Funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

The Basics of Bee Keeping
Saturday, May 11
10:00—11:30
Join local beekeeper and Worcester County Beekeeping Association member John Hedly for a presentation about the basics of beekeeping. Presentation will include topics such as

starting a beehive, the honey bee colony, chores inside and outside of the hive, collecting honey, the importance of pollination, and more!
John graduated from the Worcester County Beekeepers Association (WCBA) bee school in 2009 and has been a Beekeeper for 15 years. Nominated for Beekeeper of the Year two times by the WCBA, John continues to mentor new beekeepers and share his expertise with many organizations throughout Massachusetts. He is currently a two-term member of the WCBA Board of Directors.
Sponsored by The Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library.

Mahjong Lesson 1
Wednesday, May 15
10:00—11:30
Fels Community Room
Come learn the basics of Mahjong, classes will focus on the history of the game, learning the tiles, understanding the card, making hands, and learning the American rules, strategies, and sequence of play.
Please register for this program.
Funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford

Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library
Fran Flynn Magician Extraordinaire
Saturday, May 18
11:00-12:00
Fels Community Room
The “Family Fun Magic Show” will entertain both children and adults. This show will feature audience participation, highly visual comedy magic, plenty of laughs! Family fun for all ages!!

Crawford Library Book Group
Monday, May 20
6:00-7:30
Book: The Priory of the Orange Tree
Author: Samantha Shannon
Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout one month prior to discussion. No registration required.
*Meeting fourth Monday of each month.

Mahjong Lesson 2
Wednesday, May 27
10:00—11:30
Fels Community Room
Come learn the basics of Mahjong, classes will focus on the history of the game, learning the tiles, understanding the

card, making hands, and learning the American rules, strategies, and sequence of play.
Please register for this program.
Funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library
Pearle’s Picking Parlor Jam
a “mostly” Bluegrass Focused Jam Session
1st Saturday of every month
10:00-12:00 in the Fels Room
This is an unplugged acoustic jam.
All talent levels welcome...beginners on up!
Don’t want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Quilting Group
Wednesdays @ 1:30PM
All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

Knit & Crochet Group
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group
Dungeons & Dragons Game

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

Toddler Storytime
Tuesdays at 10:30
Join Miss Courtney on Tuesday mornings for age-appropriate stories on a fun theme, followed by a simple craft.
For ages 15 months-3 years.

Pre-K Storytime
Wednesdays at 10:30
Join Miss Courtney on Wednesday mornings for age-appropriate stories on a fun theme, followed by a simple craft. For ages 3-6.
Guest Reader Story Time
Mondays at 6:00pm through May
Each week there will be a guest reader along with activities.
We are excited to welcome our guest readers!

GLADYS E. KELLY LIBRARY

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

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

Spice Club Each month will feature a new spice, recipes, and cookbooks. Stop by the lobby to grab a sample of that month’s spice, then take it home and cook! April’s Spice is Turmeric

Are you spring cleaning your crafting materials? Bring in any yarn, fabric and other crafting materials. Then on May 6th come in and find new supplies to take home.

Adult Programming
YOGA – Saturday April 27th at 9:30 AM
Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the “uniting of movement with breath”. A typical class involves centering the mind with the breath,

aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP— May 20th at 6:30 PM
This month’s book discussion will be in the Library’s Community Room. The Group will be discussing West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rcox@cwmares.org for inquiries.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT--- April 29th at 6:00 PM
Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

COOKBOOK CLUB—May 14th at 6:00 PM
Every month there will be a new cookbook and you will choose a delicious recipe to make! You can choose anything out of the cookbook to bring and share. Whether you like to cook or bake there will always be something for you! We will eat and discuss our favorite and our least favorite things of the cooking adventure. You can pick up your copy from behind the circulation desk.

FRIENDS CONCERT SERIES PRESENTS: Sally Roger--- May 9th at 6:30 PM
Sally Rogers performs an evening of traditional, contemporary and original ballads and song, interwoven with stories taken from her life as a performer, a wife and a mother. Throughout her concerts, she accompanies herself on guitar and Appalachian dulcimer,

or performs without accompaniment in a voice that needs no further enhancement.

Children’s and Young Adult Programming

Scavenger Hunt--- All Month Long
What’s more exciting than a scavenger hunt? Come upstairs to the Children’s room to pick up a list of things to find all around the library. Once you’ve completed the scavenger hunt, check in with the Children’s Librarian to redeem a prize.

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

LEGO CLUB--- First two Tuesdays of the month at 3:30 PM
Come play with the library’s Legos. If you like, we can put your work on display!
No registration Required

BUILD TUESDAYS - from 3:30-4:30 PM
Join us for the last two Tuesday for a self-guided STEM-based building challenge, appropriate for all ages. Younger kids should bring a parent. Instruction sheets will be provided. Contact Andrew at 508-949-3880, or atai@cwmares.org for more details.

TAKE AND MAKE PEA PLANTING---- All day on April 22nd
It’s time to kick off gardening season! Pea Planting kits will be available in the lobby on Earth Day. Kits are

available for kids and adults of all ages. One per person, please. Limited quantities available.

STORYTIME--- April 23rd, and 30th at 10:00 AM
Mornings will be filled with fun stories, songs, and activities perfect for ages 2-5. Siblings are welcome to join.

STUFFED ANIMAL STORYTIME --- April 24th at 10:00 AM
Join Library Director Sondra Murphy for stories, songs, and fun with our plush pals! This story time is geared toward ages birth to 3, but siblings are welcome.

MUSIC TOGETHER--- Saturdays April 27th at 11:00 AM
Fun, fabulous, uplifting, magical early childhood music class! For ages 0 to 6 and their families. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

SENSORY BIN EXPLORATION--- 29th at 10:00 AM
Join us for open sensory bin exploration. Bins will be filled up with sand, rice, dirt, dry pasta, and more! This program is geared towards ages 2 to 5, but siblings are welcome.

STEAM MUSEUM ---- May 7th at 3:30, 4:15 and 5:00 PM
A state-of-the-art, hands-on children’s museum focused on STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math). Stations kids can experience include robots, virtual reality, 3D printing, art, engineering, and more! For kids grades K to 6. Please register for only one session. This program is funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD
Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary’s Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9 AM-11 AM; Saturday 9AM-11AM

CHARLTON
Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

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

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

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

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

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

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY
Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

WEST BROOKFIELD
Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street,
W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
- Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



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

Webster Senior Center will be closed on Monday, May 6th for the election and will be closed on Monday, May 27th 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.
Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least 2 business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays – Fridays 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.
A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) Counselor is available at the Webster Senior Center. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.
Come on down to the Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center! Call 508-341-8724 for an appointment. Bomba

Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.
Our second Genealogy Workshop, “Working With Census Reports” by Seema Kenney will be held on Friday, May 24th at 9:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk or by calling (508) 949-3845.
The REC Farmer’s Market is now setting up in the Webster Senior Center on Thursdays from 1:00 – 2:30 pm.
Join us for movie matinees! We will be showing “Oppenheimer” in two 90-minute segments. Part One on Monday, April 22nd at 1:00 pm and Part Two on Monday, April 29th at 1:00 pm. Popcorn and refreshments will be served. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.
Free Blood Pressure Screening at the Webster Senior Center on Friday, April 26th from 9:30 – 11:30 am. Please sign in when you arrive.
Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! 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.
Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us! Calling card players or interested per-

sons 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!
Webster Senior Center Trips are back! Trip 1: Ricky Nelson Remembered, performed by Matthew & Gunnar Nelson at Lake Pearl, Wrentham, MA on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. Cost: \$131.00 per person includes transportation, plated luncheon, meal tax & gratuity, and show ticket. Trip price does not include bus driver gratuity. Trip 2: Jimmy Buffett Tribute & Maine Lobster Bake at Foster’s on Monday, July 15th. Cost: \$137.00 per person includes show ticket, transportation, luncheon, meal taxes & gratuity. Trip price does not include bus driver gratuity. For more information call (508) 949-3845.
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.