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Friday, June 20, 2025

Dudley selectmen to continue push for Eagle Drive waterline project

BY JASON BLEAU **CORRESPONDENT**

DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Selectmen confirmed they will continue to push for a public waterline to be installed in the Eagle Drive neighborhood and will be prioritizing public awareness and education as they plan to reapply for state money over the next few months.

The project, deemed the "final solution" to ongoing PFAS contamination issues and state-mandated mitigation by the town, was brought to the voters during the annual town meeting in May, but failed to reach the required two-third majority by only a handful of votes. The result leaves Dudley without a permanent solution for the contamination while the town continues to pay for mitigation in several wells along Eagle Drive and Fairview Avenue. It also prevents Dudley from utilizing State Revolving Fund (SRF) money to help pay for the project. While Dudley sought to borrow \$14.2 million at the annual town meeting, only half would have been paid by the town with the other half would have been paid through an agreement

with local company Gentex. During a meeting on June 2, selectmen affirmed their commitment to moving forward with the project while also acknowledging input from the public at the annual town meeting. Some citizens called for the capped landfill, the town's source of PFAS contamination, to be moved while others felt town officials did not provide enough information on the project prior to the vote. Rather than calling a special town meeting to readdress the matter immediately, selectmen are taking the long-term approach by reapplying for SRF loan funding and spending the rest of 2025 working to better inform the public and to bring more residents of the Eagle Drive neighborhood to public meetings to get

involved in the discussion. "The feeling was, we put it off. Maybe we need to get more information. There are people out there for example that wanted to know if we could move the

Turn To WATERLINE page A13

Local DAR chapter honors Revolutionary War veterans



Layla Safaee, center, served as the focal point for the Pledge of Allegiance to start the dedication ceremony.

BY GUS STEEVES CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — With a military parade in Washington, D.C. and mass protests unfolding across the country this past weekend, a quietly respectful ceremony honored a key root of

Flag Day last weekend. Despite the drizzle, about 25 people gathered in Corbin Cemetery to dedicate six Revolutionary War

"In remembering the past, we honor the men and women who gave their lives for the preservation of our freedoms and our future," said Noveline Beltram as part of the brief ceremony. "... Help us be worthy of our noble dead."

Beltram is regent of the Captain Job Knapp chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which organized the dedication of new plaques at the graves of Aaron Albee,

Lemuel Corbin, Timothy Corbin, Timothy Foster Jr, Nathaniel Healy and Samuel Healy. She noted this is the third such ceremony the chapter has done at Corbin in recent years, totaling 13 such markers.

This effort was largely driven by Adelina Healy and her daughter Mary Anne Safaee, who claim the Healys as their ancestors. Their extended family's website - bdhhfamily.com - summarizes Nathaniel's service, noting he was born in 1736, a captain and major during the war, but also "road surveyor, constable, selectman, and committees, until 1791." It states he was one of those who responded to the call to Lexington on April 19, 1775, followed by service at Cambridge and Roxbury. By January 1778, Healy was "in command of the 2nd company of Dudley,



Some of the Capt. Job Knapp DAR Chapter members after

Continental army." The page lists multiple children, most of whom are buried near him; he died in 1817.

According to wikitree. com, Foster started the war as a 2nd lieutenant in Dudley's 3rd Company, but was later a lieutenant under Capt. Healy and Lemuel Corbin, serving through 1780. "His last period of service was marked by an injury to his arm,' the site states. Before the war, he served the town as a surveyor, "tythingman," constable and on the "committee of safety." He died in 1822, and his widow Rachel military service in 1836.

Kendra Schmidt's well-referenced "Trek Thru Time" blog summarizes some of the militia history of that period in a four-part Revolutionary Patriots series from 2017 (https:// trekthrutime.wordpress.com/2017/01/13/ revolutionary-war-patriots-hyde-ancestors-sturbridge-massachusetts-part-iv/). the beginning of the Revolutionary War, the colonies relied on the militia as a significant part of their defense. The militia had a long-standing tradition in the colonies as a safeguard to hostile threats. The first militia units can be traced to Salem, Massachusetts in 1630. Males between sixteen and sixty, except clergy, college students, and slaves, were required to serve. Most of these men were farmers like the Hyde family, tradesmen, and general laborers. They supported the rebellion but weren't willing to leave their farms and professions for long

Those militiamen had to provide their own weapons

Turn To DAR page A13

Saint Joseph School hosts successful school-wide Science Fair and Exposition

Saint Joseph School 5th-8th Grades students pose with the medals they received at the Annual Science Fair and Exposition held on May 7.

WEBSTER — On May 7, Saint Joseph School held its much-anticipated school-wide Science Fair and Exposition, an event that showcased the remarkable talents and creativity of students from PreK through Grade 8. The fair provided a platform for students to explore the wonders of science and demonstrate their knowledge through hands-on experiments

and projects. Students in all grades,

youngest learners in PreK to the advanced thinkers in Grade 8, participated in the Science Fair. Their projects spanned various scientific fields, from exploring the wonders of plants to conducting experiments with water and delving into environmental science. The diversity of projects not only showcased the students' curiosity and enthusiasm for learning but also their remarkable

talents and creativity.

In Grades 5-8, students were awarded medals for their exceptional work, with first-, second- and third-place winners recognized for their efforts. These students were commended not only for their ability to complete experiments but also for their critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and presentation of their findings.

Hands-on science is essential for developing a

deeper understanding of the world around us. By conducting experiments, students learn the scientific method, fostering their ability to ask questions, analyze data, and reach conclusions based on evidence. For students in Grades 5-8, this is especially crucial as they develop skills that will serve them in higher education and future careers. The process encourages independence, curiosity,

Turn To FAIR page A13

Oxford High Student Council gives back at The Overlook

OXFORD — The Oxford High School Student Council plans many events for the local community, such as a town Trunk or Treat, Haunted Hallway, and Holiday Craft Fairs, just to name a few. The council has expanded their community service efforts by spending the past two years working with the event planners at The Overlook, a continued care and retirement community in Charlton to plan and collaborate on events that benefit the residents of the nursing home.

This past May, the Overlook Engagement Program Coordinator, Meaghan DeJong, collaborated with the Oxford High School Student Council to plan their second annual Senior Citizen Prom. On May 9, about 25 high school students spent their Friday evening setting up and celebrating a formal prom with residents of the memory care unit and their families.

Student Council advisor Lindsay Castonguay states, "It is so valuable for young people today to engage in activities that let them interact with different generations. It is so heartwarming to see our students embrace this event for the second year in a row and to hear some students say that this prom is more fun than their own school prom!"

Oxford High School Principal, Rebecca Czernicki is supportive of the work the Student Council consistent-

"Our Student Council truly represents the heart and spirit of our school community," states Czernicki. "I am incredibly proud of the meaningful partnership they've cultivated with The Overlook. Their visits don't just bring smiles to the faces of the senior residentsthey create lasting connections that uplift everyone involved. For our students, these moments foster a deep sense of purpose, compassion, and joy-reflections

Turn To OXFORD page A13

Auburn and the American Revolutionary War, Part 4: Jonah Goulding

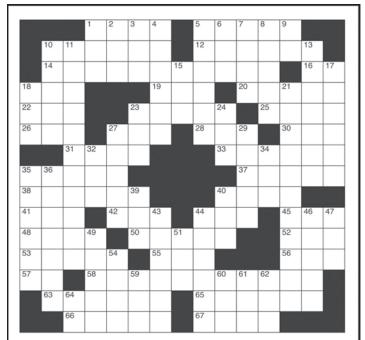
BY HELEN POIRIER BURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AUBURN — On one of the busiest streets in Auburn stands a burial ground that probably goes unnoticed by most except those who might find it ironic being next to a fast-food restaurant. Within this burial ground lie soldiers of several wars, the oldest being the Revolutionary War. There are four documented men who fought for the South Parish of Worcester, Jonah Goulding, Daniel Dodge, Robert Fitts, and Abel Partridge. The ranking soldier was Colonel Jonah Goulding, a prominent name in this town's history.

Jonah came from a long line of military men going back to his great, great-grandfather, Captain John Goulding who was part of the second Anglo-Dutch War, 1665-1667. His first service was in 1652 and his last was as the captain of the Diamond where he was killed in the line of duty on April 13, 1665.

Palmer Goulding, Jonah's grandfather, commanded a company from Worcester County at the Battle of Louisburg, present day Cape Breton Island, in 1745, This was during the King George's War and Palmer had help from British forces to claim victory. Palmer was in the House of Representative for Worcester

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of bread
- 10. Ended
- 12. Musical forms with a
- recurring theme 14. On the nature of being
- 16. Law enforcement agency
- 18. Australian flightless bird
- 19. Subway rodent 20. More dried-up
- 22. A beaver might build one 23. Suggestive of the supernatural 55. Hit lightly
- 25. Art __, around 1920
- 26. American rocker Snider 27. Not or
- 28. Earliest human: __-Magnon
- Man 30. Firearm
- 31. Tough outer skin of fruit 33. Alternative form of a gene

40. Portion of a book

37. Plants in the chamomile tribe

- 41. Hoover's office
- 42. Title of respect
- 44. Tax collector
- 45. Cool! 48. Real estate
- 50. Boy's name
- 52. Airborne (abbr.)
- 53. Strongly recommends
- 56. Bar bill
- 57. Atomic #54 58. Devotes again
- 63. Fish sauce
- 65. French stock market
- 66. Things that consist of two
- elements or parts
- 35. Low shrub some call "fat pork"

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Retired game show host Sajak 29. Ceramic jars 2. Equal (prefix)
- 3. Israeli city __ Aviv 4. Loved
- 5. A type of analyst
- 6. Ad 7. Gasteyer and de Armas are two 40. Inquire too closely
- 8. Ran without moving 9. Opposite of yes
- 10. Diffuse clouds of gas 11. Mentioning one by one
- 13. Instruments used to dilate 15. Freshwater fish
- 17. Remotely-manned flying objects
- 18. Doctor of Education
- 21. Renews
- 23. Not the start
- 24. Pitching stat
- 27. Small water buffaloes

- 32. I (German)
- 34. Something to toss on a fire 35. The process of flowing in
- 36. A series of acts at a night club
- 39. Egg of a louse
- 43. Travelers
- 44. Drink
- 46. Behave in a way that degrades
- 47. Electronic music style 49. Northern Ireland city
- 51. Upset
- 54. Stiff structure resembling a hair 59. Father
- 60. North Atlantic fish
- 61. 8th month (abbr.)
- 62. Make an effort
- 64. Commercial
- n o В A T SOLUTION О B E D E D I \forall О 3 В 8 A M M I T A 9 O D A D S A N O OA 0 ИВ A DEC 3 I 8 3 ONTOL 1 5 0 D OA а 3 S A CE 0 N \perp

in 1774. He also made homemade medicines and sold them around Worcester County according to the Worcester Spy newspaper ads.

Colonel John Goulding, Jonah's father, was listed in the 6th Worcester Company Militia that was called up on Aug. 16, 1777, as part of the reinforcements for the Continental Army during the Saratoga Campaign. The 6th Worcester was part of Brig. Gen. Jonathan Warner's brigade until after the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne's army in October, then it was disbanded in November 1777. John Goulding is also credited as being the father of the founding of Grafton, according to the History of Grafton, Worcester County.

Jonah was originally from Grafton and moved to the town of Ward in 1777 with his wife, Grace Knowlton of Shrewsbury. In the area of what is now Waterman Rd. Jonah bought a house on three acres of land which was owned by Nathaniel Southworth. Jonah eventually bought sixty acres of land and set up a tannery business which he ran until 1807. He sold the business to his son-in-law, Samuel Warren. Waterman Warren was the third generation and last to run the business.

When it came time for Jonah to do his part in the Revolutionary War he enlisted and served as a private in Capt. Luke Drury's company of Minutemen in Artemus Ward's regiment which marched on

> the alarm to Lexington and Concord serving for 5 days. He then enlisted April 24, 1775, as sergeant in the same Company and regiment which showed up on the muster roll of Aug.

> Jonah also served his adopted town, Ward, from 1781 -1786 in a variety of positions such as warden, highway surveyor, assessor, school committee, moderator, selectman, town gun committee, committee to find new minster. served in the militia as a colonel, and was tax bondsman for Benjamin Carter, Jr., who didn't pay his taxes in 1785. This was very interesting because Jonah became involved with Shays Rebellion which happened August 1786-February 1787 over high taxes and tough economic conditions. These had debtors be imprisoned, farms foreclosed on, poll taxes preventing poor citizens from voting, costly lawsuits, unjust procedures in the Court of Common Pleas, and the government not issuing paper money to help relieve economic hardships, thus creating an unstable monetary system under the Articles of Confederation.

> The Rebellion started in the western part of the state with farmers, calling themselves Regulators or Shaysites, forcing the courts to close so they couldn't execute foreclosures on their farms. Many were soldiers in the war that had not gotten their promised pay. Daniel Shay had about 1,200 men who attacked the federal arsenal at Springfield but was not successful. He tried again in Petersham but was defeated and then fled to Vermont.

> In September of 1786 a group of Regulators took possession of the Worcester Court House and would not let Chief Justice Artemas Ward hold court. Jonah and Abel Partridge of Ward were part of this group, as stated in "American Guide Series, Auburn 1837-1937." On Saturday, Dec. 9, a snowstorm scattered the Regulators who started for home from the Hancock Arms. Jonah decided to hide in an old cabin some distance from his house because he thought he would be arrested for his part in the uprising. Another snowstorm convinced him that he needed more supplies, and he went to his house to stock up and have a meal with his family. Three officers from Boston taking a short cut came to his house and arrested Jonah and took him to Boston. The Supreme Judicial Court sentenced 14 rebellion leaders, Jonah Goulding being one of them, to death for treason. They were later pardoned by the newly elected gov

ernor, John Hancock. According to the Essex Journal Feb. 2,1787, "Friday evening was brought to town, and committed to jail, a Henry Gale, of Princeton and Jonah Goulding, of Ward. The former is well known to the people for his infamous behavior at Concord, in September last; and the latter, though but little noted, has for some time been industrious in sowing the seeds of dissention in this Commonwealth.

In a letter to the State Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembly, Jonah explains he" didn't take up with the Regulators until December even though he was asked to join in much earlier. He saw the errors in his way and implored and desires, in everything to submit to the mercy and clemency of that government which he has so wantonly offended. To his own particular case, and that of his distressed wife, and innocent children, he begsto mitigate his present sufferings as to admit him

After his pardon, Jonah came back to run the family tannery business. Colonel Jonah Goulding became a representative from Auburn in the General Court from 1810-1811. Jonah is also credited with starting the First Baptist Church of Ward in 1815 along with 27 other people whose family names include: Booley, Cheney, Cudworth, Desner, Gleason, Hart, Henshaw, Holman, Jennerson, Jennison, Livermore, Pratt, Rice, Scott, Severy, and Warren. Jonah and son-in-law, Samuel Warren, donated land in what was known as Warrenville and built a meeting house. The congregation lasted until 1837 when members of the Ward church moved to a newly formed Baptist church in North Oxford. Jonah made a gift of communion service and books to the Oxford Society. When Jonah died in 1825 the church got \$158.47 from his estate with all his "neat stock, sheep and swine" were to be sold and the proceeds go to the church. The Auburn Baptist meeting house was bought by the Warren brothers and moved to where the tannery was and remained as a business until it burned in 1863.

This article is made possible by the Auburn Historical Society & Museum, 41 South Street. The museum is open Tuesday and Saturday mornings 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and may be reached at auburnmuseum@verizon.net or 508-832-6856, www.auburnhistoricalmuseum.org or follow us on Facebook at Auburn

Andrew Grniet of North Oxford named to University of Alabama Dean's List

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Andrew Grniet was named to The University of Alabama Dean's List for Spring Semester 2025.

A total of 14,289 students enrolled during Spring Semester 2025 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's). These driven students are making waves across UA's more than 70 undergraduate programs and 12 colleges and schools.

The IIA dean's and president's lists recognize fulltime undergraduate students. The lists do not apply to graduate students or undergraduate students who take less than a full course load.

For more information, visit news.ua.edu.

The University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service. With a global reputation for excellence, UA provides a forward-thinking environment and over 200 degree programs on a beautiful, student-centered campus. A leader in cutting-edge research, UA advances discovery, creative inquiry and knowledge

through more than 30 research centers. As the state's largest higher education institution, UA drives economic growth in Alabama and beyond.

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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.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.

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Webster Town Hall (508) 949-3850 Office Hours:

Friday 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. WEBSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tuesday-Thursday8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(943-1212) For emergencies, call 911

Webster Fire Department (949-3875) Monday-Friday8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday......8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Ruda "exceeds expectations" in latest annual review

BY JASON BLEAU CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Dudley Administrator Jonathan Ruda received high marks on his annual review as the Board of Selectmen graded his performance on a variety of categories ranging from public relations to board communication, budgeting, and staff manage-

Ruda's review was split into three different parts, with more than 30 individual grades spanning a variety of performance categories where selectmen rated his performance on a scale of one to dour with four being the highest possible grade. The results were revealed by selectmen on June 2, with Ruda receiving an overall average score of "four" or "exceeds expectations." The Town Administrator earned perfect scores in 12 of the categories and

Property.

Member.

received at least a three or higher by every selectman on all grades. Most notably, Ruda received perfect scores in three of the four objectives set by the Board of Selectmen for Fiscal Year 2025. His lowest score was for his interpersonal communication where he received three grades of three.

praised Selectmen Ruda's public engagement, leadership, manability agement, his and success when seeking alternative funding resources outside of taxation for town projects and initiatives, his preparedness for town meetings, his relationship with the Board of Selectmen, and his ability to keep them updated and to carry out their wishes in a timely manner Selectman Steve Sullivan was one of several selectmen who praised Ruda for his continued quality of leadership in the town.

"It's hard to evaluate

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department report-

A 32-year-old male from Holyoke was taken into

protective custody on June 1 for Disorderly Conduct,

Disturbing the Peace, Assault & Battery on a Police

Officer, Resisting Arrest, and Vandalization of

A 43-year-old male from Webster was arrested on

A 60-year-old male from Dudley received a summons

Kevin Michael Andrews, age 39, of Webster was

Jared Jon Jocelyn, age 40, of Somerville was arrest-

ed on June 4 in connection with a warrant. Brent

Vincent, age 48, of Waltham was arrested during the

June 5 for Unarmed Burglary and Disorderly Conduct.

been withheld from publication was arrested on June

8 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household

Member and Assault & Battery on a person over the

Dallas J. Sewall, age 30, of Webster was arrested on

Sycue D. Reid-Oliver, age 34, of Webster was arrested

Brian Andrew Reynolds, age 67, of Webster was

arrested on June 10 for Discharging a Firearm Within

500 Feet of a Building and multiple counts of Assault

& Battery and Assault with a Dangerous Weapon. A

juvenile, age 16, received a summons in lieu of arrest

during the same incident for Assault & Battery on a

Person Over the age of 60 and/or Disabled with Injury

has been withheld from publication was arrested on

June 13 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household

Member, Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon,

A 37-year-old female from Webster whose identity

Travis H. Haines, age 40, of Dudley was arrested on

A 60-year-old male from Webster whose identity has

in lieu of arrest on June 2 for operating an Unregistered

and Uninsured Motor Vehicle and Operating a Motor

arrested on June 3 in connection with a warrant.

same incident, also in connection with a warrant.

Vehicle after suspension of license.

age of 60 and/or Disabled.

June 9 in connection with a warrant.

and Vandalization of Property.

the

and

Peace (subsequent

Resisting Arrest.

offense),

Janessa

on June 10 in connection with a warrant.

June 1 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household

ed the following arrests during the week of June 1-14.

someone in public. A lot of people wouldn't have the temerity to go through it. We have to do it by law, but it's also part of transparency for the townspeople to see how we feel about what the Town Administrator provides to us and, by extension, the town on a day-to-day basis, hour-to-hour sometimes. I think what we did was a fair and accurate representation of the work that Jonathan Ruda has given to the town over the last year," said

thanked Ruda the Selectmen for their continued trust in him, admitting he might have been more critical of himself if her were conduct-

Sullivan.

ing the review.

"I'd like to thank the board for the continued support that they've showed me and the confidence they have in me.

I consistently am harder on myself in terms of rating my own performance than the five (selectmen) are, so I appreciate it," said Ruda.

Ruda recently entered his seventh year as Town Administrator after being appointed in May of 2019 following several terms as a Dudley Selectman.

Green Path Cannabis in Southbridge, Massachusetts, is proud to offer a monthly record expungement program! Each month, Green Path will choose one interested person to receive legal services to evaluate and assist their petitions to seal or expunge a criminal record of cannabis possession. Green Path will give hiring consideration to qualified participants as well as their spouses and children if an employment vacancy exists.

Please apply for consideration at greenpathcannabis.com or email kailyhepburn@kailyhepburnlaw.com.

WEBSTER

POLICE

LOG

WEBSTER

Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of June 1-7.

A 32-year-old male from Holyoke was taken into protective custody on June 1 for Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, Assault & Battery on a Police Officer, Resisting Arrest, and Vandalization of Property.

A 43-year-old male from Webster was arrested on June 1 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

A 60-year-old male from Dudley received a summons in lieu of arrest on June 2 for operating Unregistered Uninsured Motor Vehicle and Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license.

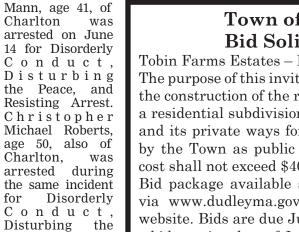
Kevin Michael Andrews, age 39, of Webster was arrested on June 3 in connection with a warrant.

Jared Jon Jocelyn, age 40, of Somerville was arrested on June 4 in connection with a warrant. Brent Vincent, age 48, of Waltham was arrested during the same incident, also in connection with a warrant.

Travis H. Haines, age 40, of Dudley was arrested on June 5 for Unarmed Burglary and Disorderly

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Town of Dudley **Bid Solicitation**

Tobin Farms Estates – Betterment Project The purpose of this invitation is to solicit bids for the construction of the required work to prepare a residential subdivision (Tobin Farms Estates) and its private ways for layout and acceptance by the Town as public ways. The total project cost shall not exceed \$401,000.00.

Bid package available starting June 16, 2025, via www.dudleyma.gov and on COMMBUYS website. Bids are due July 7, 2025, at 4pm with a bid opening date of July 8, 2025 at 1pm.

An optional pre-bid site visit will take place on June 24,2025 at 11am.



While Supplies Last

As Low As



Pearle L. Crawford Library

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley 508-949-8021

The Library will be closed Friday. July 4.

There is so much happening at the Library this month! In addition to Summer Reading- Level up Your Library Game, we will be celebrating SHARK WEEK from Monday, July 7 - Friday, July 11. There will be crafts, trivia and shark related photo ops too! Don't forget our 15 Year Anniversary celebration is Thursday, July 10th 4:00-

To register for events, or sign up for the newsletter go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021.

Gentle Yoga Mondays in July 10:00-11:00 AM

Join yoga instructor Patricia, for a traditional "on the mat" yoga class with chair yoga modifications. This truly is a one size fits all class.

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

Mahjong at the Pearle

Every Wednesday in July

10:00-12:30 Fels Community Room

The game consists of players competing to form distinct sets or pairs of tiles, similar to gin rummy.

Everyone welcome, registration not required.

Quilting Group

Every Wednesday @ 1:30

All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

Knit & Crochet Group

Every Thursday 5:30-7:45 and Friday 10:00-12:00

All stitchers are welcome for this informal group.

Bring your project, enjoy the compa-

Crafternoons at the Library Paint Stick Beach Flag Tuesday, July 1

1:00-2:00 You'll leave with a one-of-a-kind cre-

ation to enjoy! Registration is Required.

Picking Parlor Jam a "mostly" Bluegrass Focused Jam Session 1st Saturday of every month

Saturday, July 5

10:00-12:00 in the Fels Community

This is an unplugged acoustic jam. All talent levels welcome...beginners on up!

Don't want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Let's Talk Nipmuc Genealogy Monday, July 7

6:00-7:45

Unlock the secrets of your family history! Join us for five enlightening sessions on exploring your roots. Our expert genealogist will share tips, resources and stories to inspire your research. Patricia M. St. Marie, Professional Genealogist www.progenofne.com. Registration Required.

15 Year Celebration Thursday, July 10

4:00-7:00

Join the Pearle in celebrating its 15th anniversary in the Schofield Ave. location. This event will feature local music, caricature artist, rock painting, balloon animals, picnic food, ice cream and library tours. Let's celebrate!

This event is funded by the Hugh W. & Harriet K. Crawford Endowment Fund for the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial

No Registration Required.

GED & HiSET Informational Tuesday, July 15 10:00-12:00

Contact alandry@webster-schools. org to register.

Once Upon A Crime Book Club

The Good Nurse by: Charles Graeber

Friday, July 11

11:00-12:00

Adult Reading Area

Do you have a passion for true crime and examining the details of each case? This book club is for you!

The "Once Upon A Crime Book Club" meets the first Friday of every month in the adult reading area.

All books will be pre-ordered and available for pick up at the circulation

SARJ- Saturday Acoustic Roots Jam Saturday, July 19

11:00-1:00 in the Fels Community

This is an unplugged acoustic jam. All talent levels welcome and listen-

Crawford Library Book Group

Thursday, July 24 6:00-7:30

Book: God of the Woods

Author: Liz Moore

Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout

one month prior to discussion. No Registration Required.

"Cook the Book" Book Club Monday, July 28 6:00-7:00

Book: Easy Weeknight Dinners Author: Emily Weinstein

Pick one recipe from the book selected for the month, the dishes don't have to be complicated or fancy, any recipe from the book is fair game, except alcoholic beverages-sorry! Prepare the recipe at home and share it at the library. We cannot reheat or keep food warm, so consider this when choosing your recipe.

You are responsible for bringing serving utensils. We will provide paper goods and utensils for eating.

There will be a place to include your recipe selection in the reservation form. Registration Required.

Baby Open Play Fridays in July

10:00-12:00

Open play for babies! Parents and caregivers can let babies play while getting to know others in the community. Come anytime between 10-12 or stay the whole time! No Registration Required

Shark Storytime! Tuesday, July 8 11:00 - 11:45

Join us for a storytime that's all about sharks! We'll sing songs, do fingerplays, read a fun story, dance with scarves, pretend we are under the sea with bubbles, and finish with a fun craft, activities, and free play! This program is best for ages 3-6 - No Registration needed.

Tommy James Magic Show - "Keep the Kids Laughing!"

Wednesday, July 9

Come join the fun with a roller coaster ride of magic entertainment that will have kids and adults engaged and laughing the entire show! Tommy James incorporates a hilarious style of magic that has been honed to perfection with over thirty years of performing experience. You'll witness non-stop comedy and magic by a wonderful entertainer! There will be a live rabbit, and the show will conclude with a child floating in

No Registration Required.

Science Heroes: - "Adventure of the Missing Color!"

Monday, July 14

11:00- 11:45

Join Science Heroes on their mission to turn science into an adventure! Through hands-on experiments and fun, interactive stories, you'll discover the science behind the colors we see. Along the way, you'll help solve the mystery of the missing color! This program is best for ages 5-12.

No Registration Required.

Get Moving with Mason Rd. Physical Education Teacher Mr. Davis

Wednesday, July 16

Fun outdoor activities for everyone! Something a little different each month. This program is best for ages 5-12.

No Registration Required. This is not a drop off event.

Pokemon Club Thursday, July 17

6:00-6:45

Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon club! Each month we will have exciting crafts and activities! Best for ages 6 and up. No Registration Required. This is not a drop off program.

Tinker Tuesday! Tuesday, July 22

10:30 - 11:30

Join us for hands-on activities promoting problem solving and creative thinking! Drop-in anytime between 10:30 - 11:30 am. This is best for ages 3-6.

No Registration Required

Puppet Show with Pumpernickel Puppets!

Thursday, July 31 1:30-2:15

Join us as John McDonough works his magic with his Pumpernickel Puppets! He'll entertain us with 2 stories: Three Billy Goats Gruff", and "The Lion and the Mouse." You won't want to miss this fun, family event! This program is recommended for children ages 3 and over.

Registration Required.

Dungeons & Dragons Game

Every Thursday, 6:00-7:30 Ages 12-19

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!

Cheez-Its Taste Test Challenge for

Monday, July 21

3:45-4:30 Ages 12-18

Come and test your tastebud skills and come hungry! Sample a variety of different flavored Cheez-Its, and see if you can guess what each one is. Prizes for the top 3 winners with the most correct answers! What better way to have an afternoon snack? This program is for ages 12-18 only. No Registration Required.

Local Author Book Launch- The Sideshow by Maggie Montville

Thursday, July 31

6:00-7:15 Join us in welcoming Dudley author, Maggie Montville, for her first book launch celebration. Maggie will be reading an excerpt from her novel, The Sideshow.

Refreshments will be served, and copies of the book will be available for purchase.

The Sideshow" is a genre bender incorporating history, mystery, and suspense into a story filled with dynamic characters and clever tie-ins to the poetry of Edgar Allen Poe and other "easter eggs" referencing well-known pieces of literature. The setting of the book is a 1920s traveling circus, and the plot contains multiple twists and turns guaranteed to keep the reader on the edge of their seat.

About the Author: Maggie Montville is an up-and-coming author who has just released her debut novel. "The Sideshow". When Maggie is not writing, she enjoys acting in local theater productions, singing, and performing as a character actress at children's parties across New England.



its Dean's List for the spring 2025 semester, in which 1,302 students were recognized for maintaining high GPAs.

Among the students were:

Gavin May of Dudley, a full-time senior who majors in Art

letter-graded coursework with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Ella Springer of Dudley, a full-time senior who majors in Health Sciences To qualify for Dean's List, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credits in letter-graded courses with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher in the semester. Part-time students are eligible if they've accumulated 15 or more credits of

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GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster

508-949-3880

Library Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The library will be closed on Thursday, June 19th for Juneteenth

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Adult Services Librarian Jessica Fontaine at jfontaine@cwmars.org

Adult Programming

Yoga – Saturdays at 9:30 AM

Join Julie or Lauren at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. 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

Yoga Nidr – Wednesday Mornings in June at 8:15AM Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidr practice to start your day on Wednesdays. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidr). If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing. This program takes place before the library officially opens. Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door.

Library for All – First Two Mondays; Last Two Fridays 10AM (Chair Yoga or Craft)

This program includes one chair yoga class and one craft project that will be held on first two Mondays and the last two Fridays of the month. Either join Jess for a one-hour relaxing Chair Yoga class or join us for our craft program. Check the online calendar to see which event is scheduled. No experience necessary. This program is for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please call ahead if special accommodations or requirements are needed.

Genre Book Club - Tuesday, June 24th at 6:00PM This month we're reading Magical Realism -When Women Were Dragons by Kelly Barnhill. Copies are available at the circulation desk.

Computer Basics - Thursday, June 26th at 3:00PM Come learn some computer basics with Assistant Director Evan Hale and Adult Services Librarian Jess Fontaine.

Has Anyone Seen \$500 Million in Art Lying Around Boston? – Thursday, June 26th at 6:00PM

An hour or so after the 1990 St. Patrick's Day ended, two men dressed as Boston cops entered the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, stayed for about 90 minutes, and left with 13 pieces of art. None of the items have been found. Numerous suspects have been named over the years; none have been arrested. Many are dead. Bob Ainsworth, the author of Duped, a fictional account of the robbery, will review the actual details of the theft, the suspects, and the motives behind the world's most valued art theft.

Programming for All Ages

Summer Eats Kickoff Party - Monday, June 23rd 12:00-1:00PM

Join us to kick off our annual summer eats program! Free pizza, games, music, and fun! Rain date Monday July 1st. Part of Project Bread, the Massachusetts' Department of Education, and local school and community meal providers.

Puzz Fest - Thursday June 26th 6:00PM

Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us in the Community Room to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We'll have popcorn to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. All teams will get to keep their puzzle. Registration is required.

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.

Take and Make Craft--- All month long

New Take and Make kits will be available for pick up in the Children's room on the 1st of every month, while supplies last.

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!

Mini Block Party - Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00PM

Zoe Picard earns degree from Wofford College

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Wofford College awarded 452 Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degrees to graduates during the college's 171st Commencement exercises.

Zoe Picard of Auburn, Mass., received a BA in sociology

and anthropology.

Wofford College, established in 1854, is a four-year, residential liberal arts college located in Spartanburg, South Carolina. It offers 27 major fields of study to a student body of 1,800 undergraduates. Nationally known for the strength of its academic program, outstanding faculty, experiential learning opportunities and successful graduates, Wofford is recognized consistently as a "best value" and for its commitment to student success and accessibility for low- and middle-income students. The college community has 12 sororities and fraternities as well as 20 NCAA Division I athletics teams.



ARTHRITIS?

Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be? If not we may be able to help.

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Charles A. Birbara, MD **Associate Professor of Medicine, Umass-Chan Medical School** 25 Oak Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 508-799-2674 "Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis" Play with magnets, wooden blocks, and Legos.

Toddler Playtime--- Tuesdays at 10:00 AM Kids 0 to 6 are invited to get their wiggles out with weekly obstacle course and fun.

Storytime for Littles – Wednesdays at 10AM Join Andrew the Children's Librarian for a

few of his favorite stories, felt story fun, and some free play. This storytime is geared toward ages 0 to 3, but siblings are welcome.

Play-doh Storytime - Fridays at 10AM

Join Youth Services Librarian Andrew for stories, play-doh, and fun! This storytime is geared toward ages 2 to 5, but siblings are welcome.

Beginner Origami-Fridays at 3:45PM

Are you interested in making origami, but you don't know where to start? You can start here. And if you do know how to make some origami, feel free to come make some as well. For kids of all ages.

Music Together – Saturday, June 21st at 11:15AM

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

Summer Reading Program Kickoff: High Flying Dogs – Monday, June 23rd at 10AM

Watch these amazing canines fly through the air doing frisbee tricks in an interactive show! Please do not bring your own dog!

Ultimate Mobile Gaming Truck - Monday, June 23rd 3:00-4:30PM

Play a variety of games on the latest consoles inside a climate controlled mobile video game theater.

Pop Up Art School: Felted Totoro for Teens - Tuesday, June 24th 2:30PM

Learn how to needle felt and make a neighbor-

ly character from a Japanese movie. Leave the class with the basic supplies and knowledge to needle felt on your own. Needle felting is surprisingly easy, relaxing and fun! For ages 13 and up. Registration is required for this program.

Kim the Lego Lady – Tuesday, June 24th 4:00PM

Do you love building, creating, and having fun with LEGO? Look no further! Kim the Lego Lady is here and we want YOU to be part of our LEGO CLUB adventure. Join us for interactive building challenges, new skills and create fabulous imaginative builds. For Ages 5-11. Registration is required for this program.

Real Estate

AUBURN

\$800,000, 5 Paul Revere Rd, Paul Revere Road Iiot, and List Jr, John G, to Cavanaugh, Garrett, and Becker, Maggie.

\$615,000, 220 South St, Turcotte, Jacob, to Dotson, Max P.

\$510,000, 2 Bayberry Ln, Keysor William Est, and Santiago, Karen, to Hoey, Robert A, and Hoey, Mary C.

\$380,000, 6 Heard St, Rando, Patrice, and Rando, Michael T, to Jovenal, Andre, Jovenal, Sophie.

\$300,000, 7 Aurilla Ct, Sampson, Sally A, to Sampson, Christopher.

DUDLEY None

OXFORD

\$275,000, 707 Main St, Lavallee, Enest H, to Knutelski, Mariusz. \$275,000, 8 Rawson

Ave, Barrows, Roger F, to Orasz, Robert.

WEBSTER

\$1,000,000, 15 Cedar Rd, Longo, Point Jonathan P, to Allison, Elizabeth L, and Allison Jr, Robert J.

\$612,000, 22 Cooper Rd, Arm Renovations Inc, to Hills, Richard, and Hills, Nicole.

\$510,000, 10 Slater St, Wetherbee, Matthew H, to Martinez, Kevin, and Vargus, Lina P.

\$510,000. 7 Woods Grove Dr, Colby, Matthew, and Nigro, Melissa, to Varieur, Tyler, and Austin, Rebecca.

\$500,000, 10 Kingsbury Rd, Oleary Nancy J Est, and Oleary Jr, John R, to Pepin, Matthew S, and Podell, Kayla R.

\$252,000, 25 Overlook Ave, Pearce, Kenneth G, and Pearce, Cynthia L, to New England Hm Buyers

Webster Senior Center

5 Church St.

(508) 949-3845

Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

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

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

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least two business days in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation for 65 and up, and \$5 for 55-64 is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday, 6/24, Burgundy pork, mashed sweet potatoes, green peas, pears. Wednesday, 6/25, Butter chicken, red bliss potatoes, country blend vegetables, vanilla mousse. Thursday, 6/26, Jambalaya, rice pilaf, California blend vegetables, birthday cake. Friday, 6/27, Soup du Jour, NY pastrami, potato salad,

applesauce. Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays- Fridays 8:30 am- 3:00 pm.

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

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

We are now offering MOVIE MATINEES every Wednesday at 1:00 pm! Popcorn is provided. No registration needed. The last movie of June will be The Last Word on June 25th.

The Friends of the Webster Senior Center will be hosting a Summer Party to kick off the beginning of summer weather on Monday, June 23rd at 1:00 PM. There will be live music by Tony Persinos. Tri-Valley will be hosting another Hot Dog Bar on this day at 11:30 AM. Please sign up before the 18th of June.

Chair Dancing Exercise classes with Forty Arroyo are the perfect workout for any fitness ability! The cost is a recommended \$3.00 donation per class. A new video class will be offered Thursday and Friday mornings, free of charge.

Knitting/Crochet group meets on Mondays from 10:00 am- 12:00 pm.

Bingo is every Tuesday and starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm.

Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm. Feel free to

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

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm. Beginners welcome!

Calling all bridge players! Are you looking to spend an afternoon playing Bridge? We're looking to get a group together! If you're interested, please leave your name and number with the front desk. Once we have enough sign-ups, we'll see what day works best for everyone!

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

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



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Frank G. Chilinski STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

> Brendan Berube **E**DITOR

EDITORIAL

This is your brain on fun

When's the last time you had some real, stupid, joyful fun?

Not the kind that's scheduled on a calendar or costs \$85 a ticket. I mean the kind of fun that sneaks up on you and reminds you life isn't all stress and headlines. A kitchen dance-off. A latenight ice cream run. A ridiculous game of charades where everyone ends up crying from laughter.

We forget how much we need that.

The world's heavy enough. People are tired. Disconnected. But fun, real, lowstakes, no-reason fun brings us back to life. It connects us and reminds us we're

And there's science to it. Research from Harvard found that playfulness, humor, and spontaneous joy reduce cortisol levels, improve brain function, and increase our capacity for empathy and resilience. Even the Harvard Law Review has noted how community and levity can improve public well-being and reduce conflict which sounds pretty good right about now. Fun doesn't fix everything. But it makes everything easier to carry.

Harvard Study on Happiness: A longterm Harvard study on adult development found that close relationships and shared joyful experiences are the strongest predictors of health and longevity more than money or fame. Fun, especially when shared, strengthens those bonds.

Stanford Neuroscience Research: Engaging in fun and playful activities increases dopamine levels, which improve mood, motivation, and focus. It's your brain's natural "reward" sys-

National Institute for Play: This institute emphasizes that play reduces stress, boosts creativity, and improves overall well-being, especially when it includes laughter or spontaneous moments.

American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine: Reports that people who prioritize leisure and play have lower levels of cortisol (the stress hormone), improved immune function, and reduced risk of cardiovascular disease.

More examples of everyday fun:

Hosting a "bad movie night" with neighbors and popcorn.

Setting up a spontaneous water balloon fight on a hot day.

Having a board game potluck everyone brings a snack and a game.

Organizing a "slow bike ride" zero

competition, just cruising.

Creating a temporary sidewalk chalk gallery on your street.

Starting a DIY music night a few instruments, no expectations.

Holding a "try something new" night. People teach each other random skills like yoyo tricks, juggling, or how to whistle with fingers.

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.

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

THE DEADLINE to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next

Pretend!

TOBY

MOORE

In 1979, a Harvard psychologist named Ellen Langer conducted a study that still raises eyebrows today. She gathered a group of men in their 70s and 80s and asked them to do something radical: pretend they were 20 years younger.

For five days, these men lived in a recreated environment styled entirely from two decades earlier. The furniture, the magazines, the music, even the way they spoke—all designed to transport them back in time.

They didn't just reminisce about the past. They were asked to live it. To speak in the present tense, as if 1959 wasn't a memory but their current reality.

"Imagination is everything. It is the preview of life's coming attractions," said Albert Einstein.

What happened next sounds like fiction: Their IQ scores jumped by an average of 60 points. Their posture improved. They stood taller. Their posture and joint flexibility improved. Even finger length increased—an observable biological response. Some tossed their canes. A few played touch football on the lawn. All without medication. No surgery. Just belief, imagination, and embodiment.

Draw from that what you will. But here's the question worth ask-Positively SPEAKING

tim. The almost-was.

Who are you pretending to be?

We don't always think of ourselves as actors. But we are. Every day, we step into roles—some conscious, many not. The tired one. The anxious one. The too-late one. The responsible-but-forgotten one. The vic-

We play them so well that we forget we're performing until it becomes our truth.

Some would look at that Harvard study and scoff, "They were putting on a facade." But that's not what happened at all. I think they were peeling off the

I think, for five days, they stopped pretending to be old—and remembered who they really were. They told a new story in their heads. And their bodies followed. Their minds led. And biology responded.

That's the power of identity.

"We are what we pretend to be, so we must be careful about what we pretend to be," wrote Kurt Vonnegut.

Turn To **POSITIVELY** page **A7**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reasons being...

As I read the June 13 issue, once again was an opinion writer from Dudley giving his views, and I can't help myself in responding. It doesn't seem right to always read one sided views without giving the other. It's a good thing he was wrong about freedom of speech ending on Trump's first day.

Trump Derangement Syndrome (TDS). A pure hatred for Trump. A person with TDS will disagree with any and all of what Trump says, does, or signs, no matter what.

Several months ago, the people or person I refer to were totally against DOGE and any spending cuts they proposed. Defended an agency like USAID, which, among other things, had \$1.5 million for the production of a DEI musical in Ireland, \$2.5 million for E.V.s for Vietnam, \$2 million for sex changes and LBGT activism in Guatemala, and \$6 million to fund tourism in Egypt. Does anyone besides me think much, if not all, of it could have been used right here in our country on necessary things that are underfunded? Nope! TDS would not allow that. Opinions were voiced. pens used, protests organized, lawsuits filed, and extreme acts of domestic terrorism were used, simply because it was Tesla. Some lawsuits were successful and spending had to be replaced, resumed, or not cut at all. "Hooray!" they shouted. "We showed him!" Now the spending bill comes out, and much of what they really wanted is buried on one of the pages no one reads, and now they complain it's too much and adds to the deficit. My question for them

- What did you think would happen? Old spending plus new spending equals more spending and bigger deficits. TDS has its effects. I myself don't like the bill in totality; it is one bill closer to my grandkids having no future because the country will end up broke.

This same writer doesn't like it because he says it will give tax breaks to the rich, yet he is all in favor of giving our tax dollars to the ultra rich Harvard University, a university with a nontaxable endowment fund in the neighborhood of \$53 billion. Why the hypocrisy? Because Trump suggested cutting government funding, whatever the reason may be, and our writer will never agree to anything Trump. Sounds like a serious case of TDS.

And finally, the Democrats' favorite catch phrase as of late. Kind of like the flavor of the month. Due process. Our legal system revolves around it, our Constitution demands it; I will not argue against it.

However, how many of the people that entered illegally or stayed longer than they should have cared anything about the legal processes they should have followed? Those in themselves would be misdemeanors or civil infractions, but under immigration law, as confusing as it may be, may include penalties up to and including deportation. Entering after a previous deportation is a felony, and grounds for immediate deportation. Those that entered were held, processed, and free to go unless something popped up immediately, which could include crimes committed in another country, which would be grounds for immediate deportation. The waiting time for their hearings could be years; 90 percent of

them do show up, and the other 10 would be given immediate deportation orders. It is not ICE issuing the orders, it's judges who do that. Of the 90 percent that show, between 45 and 65 percent have successful cases; the others will be given a chance to self deport. It is not ICE that decides this, it is judges. ICE is simply federal officers upholding federal law, and arresting those who break it, not some Gestapo unit. While waiting for the hearings, even the smallest of infractions could lead to deportation. Mistakes can happen, but banks, mortgage companies, even electric or cable companies can make mistakes that ruin a person. I don't hear anyone complaining about that. Why? TDS.

Our current administration is upholding the laws — that's it, that's all. We all have rights under the laws, but without laws, we would have no rights.

Our last administration, under the guise of Covid, restricted our rights. Freedom of assembly was no more. No crowds at sporting events, kids had no school or things that went with it, no church services could be held. Our freedom of movement was restricted; no going to open air parks, or beaches at the ocean in many places. We were told how many people we could have in our own private homes. Do you remember any of that, or does TDS have such an effect on you, it's all a blank?

And finally — don't take my word for it, look it up, the information is easy enough to find. Our last administration, under what I will say was Joe Biden, whether he knew it or not, had in comparison, on average, more deportations than Trump does now. In June of 2024, he was on pace to 1.5 million, in addition to three million expulsions of migrants crossing the border under Title 42, which the vast majority was under Biden, and other actions to block migrants from entering without permission, his total was close to 4.5 million. More than any single term since George W Bush. In the 12 months after Title 42 ended, he removed 775,000 which is more than any previous fiscal year since 2010. From May 2023 to March 2024, 316,000 expedited removals were processed, which was more than any prior fiscal year.

I'm sure someone will say it was because more people were coming in illegally. But that can't be true. Joe, Kamala, Alejandro Mayorkas, Karine Jean Pierre, the ladies on "The View," and every liberal news station told us we were imagining that — it was all a Trump lie, don't believe what you see, it's cheap fakes and AI imaging we were seeing; the border was closed. There were no protests, no riots, ICE was not a thought on anyone's mind. Joe Biden pulled off one of the biggest mass deportations in U.S. history and no one cared. Those suffering from TDS have really had the wool pulled over their eyes.

They spent our money, lied to us about everything, infringed on our rights, created mandates that people followed like good little sheep, and got rid of a lot of people you claim to care so much about now, and you still think Trump is bad. TDS at its pinnacle.

> JOHN GIAQUINTO **DUDLEY**

Mix up These "Solutions" to Your Gardening Challenges

It's growing season and nearly every successful backyard gardener uses a few tricks of the trade to ensure success. But the average gardener is not without challenges this time of year, whether it is repelling pesky garden pets or curing black spot disease. With this in mind, the following tried and true "recipes," made from ordinary household ingredients offer a creative solution to common garden problems.

Flower Bed Pet Deterrent

Made from pantry dry goods, this chemical free recipe has been used for generations of gardeners to repel pets from garden beds.

Ingredients: one part cayenne pepper; two parts dry mustard powder; four parts flour

Directions: Mix in a large paper grocery bag by holing the neck of the bag and shaking it. Distribute generously in the beds. Repellent must be reapplied after watering.



TAKE THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR

Cut Garden Flower Preservative The ory behind this recipe is

that Listerine

contains sucrose and a bactericide to extend the life of cut flowers.

Ingredients: two ounces Listerine mouthwash; one gallon water

Directions: Mix together and pour into vase of cut flowers.

Green Lawn Cocktail

Give your lawn a healthy boost with this cocktail made from common ingre-

Ingredients: one cup Epsom salts: one cup household ammonia; one can beer; two cups water

Directions: Pour into hose-end sprayer and apply. Covers and peps up about 2000 square feet.

Black Spot Cure for Roses

Get roses back in tip top shape with this simple spray.

Ingredients: three tablespoons baking soda; one gallon water.

Directions: Mix together both ingredients and spray roses. Pick up any fallen rose leaves and burn them or take them to the dump.

Exterior Mildew Wash

Extinguish mold on outside garden walls and other surfaces with this powerful mildew wash.

Ingredients: three quarts warm water; one quart liquid laundry bleach, such as Clorox; one quarter cup powdered laundry detergent; two thirds of a cup TSP (trisodium phosphate, available at paint stores)

Directions: Mix well and apply to surfaces with a stiff broom. Let stand for one half hour. Rinse well with a garden hose to prevent damage to plants. Wear rubber gloves when handling.

Note: These recipes were collected from several different published sources. Use with care and at your own risk.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the 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 helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol. com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Create, plant, and maintain a pollinator garden



Courtesy

A Hemaris Hummingbird Moth on a Monarda flower.

National Celebrate Pollinator Month this June by creating and maintaining a garden that attracts and supports these important members of our ecosystem. Pollinators are responsible for about 75 percent of the food we eat and play an important role in producing food, fiber, medicine and more. The European honeybee is the most well-known but our native bees along with moths, wasps, beetles, flies, bats, and some birds also help pollinate our gardens.

Because here's something most

people never consider: every one

of us is pretending. All the time.

Based on what we believe. Based

on what we've agreed to about

ourselves. Based on what we

were told—and accepted—about

So ask yourself: Are you really

Because if you want to know

who you're acting like, just look

at your results. Your life is the

clearest revelation of who you've agreed to be. And if you want

new results, you don't need to

push harder—you need to play a

That starts with changing

your internal I Am. From "I'm

too late" to "I'm right on time."

From "I'm stuck" to "I'm grow-

ing." From "I'm not enough" to

It's not about faking it 'til

you make it. It's about embody-

who you've been pretending to

what's possible.

new role.

"I'm becoming."

Just like the honeybees and Monarch butterflies, many pollinators are struggling with their populations dwindling due to pesticides and loss of habitat. You can make a difference by creating pollinator gardens filled with their favorite plants.

Start helping all pollinators and the environment by reducing or better yet eliminating the use of pesticides. If you opt for a chemical solution, look for the most eco-friendly product and as always read and follow label directions to minimize the negative impact on the environment and pollinators.

As you create your pollinators' paradise include shelter from predators and the weather. Include trees and shrubs, if space allows, providing you with year-round interest and nectar, pollen, and tasty leaves as well as nesting sites and safe havens for the various life stages. Leave patches of open soil for ground nesting bees and some leaf litter to shelter some butterflies, bumblebees, and other pollinating insects.

Plant a variety of native plants, herbs and other pollinator favorites that provide nectar and pollen throughout the season. Spring bulbs, early blooming wildflowers and perennials provide essential food that is often in limited supply early in the season. Fall flowering plants provide needed energy supplies as the bees, hummingbirds, and other pollinators prepare for winter.

Include plants with different colors and shaped flowers to attract and support a variety of pollinators. Plant flowers in mass. You will enjoy the display, the garden will require less maintenance, and the pollinators will use less energy when they can gather lots of food from a smaller

Plant masses of flowcolumbine, like



GARDEN MOMENTS **MELINDA**

MYERS

sweet alyssum, annual and perennial salvia, cupheas, cosmos, phlox, zinnias, bee balm, liatris, sedum, asters and more to help attract these beauties to your landscape. Fuchsias, begonias and impatiens are perfect for shady locations. And don't let a lack of space dissuade you; even a window box of flowers can

Bigger flowers are not always better. Double flowers may be showy, but they have less nectar and pollen. The multiple lavers of petals may hinder access to the nectar and pollen they contain.

Grow some herbs in the garden and containers for you, the bees, and other beneficial insects. Let some go to flower and watch for visitors on thyme, borage, oregano, and other herb flowers. Tolerate a bit of damage on parsley, dill and fennel as the swallowtail caterpillars dine on the leaves. These vigorous plants will recover once the caterpillars trans-

form into beauti-

ful butterflies.

some native Add plants to your gardens whenever possible. They are a richer source of nectar and pollen than cultivated plants. Pollinators and other beneficial insects have evolved with these plants, providing a mutual benefit.

Puddles, fountains, birdbaths and even a damp sponge can provide needed water. Include water features with sloping sides or add a few stones for the visitors to sip without getting wet. Sink a shallow container of sand in the ground. Keep it damp and add a pinch of sea salt for the butterflies and bees. Add a flat stone for warming and be sure to watch for and snap a few photos of visitors as they sip and sun in your garden.

If you create it, they will come. Be patient,

make note of their favorites, and keep growing to attract, support and enjoy these important garden visitors.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the 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 radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers hosted "The Plant Doctor" radio show on WTMJ radio for more than 20 years and seven seasons of Great Lakes Gardener on PBS. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers. com which features gardening videos, free webinars, monthly gardening tips, and more.

PAWFECT Enjoy the Day - Run, Fetch, Play! PAW of the WEEK

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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.

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'Friday's Child



Rowan Age 13 Registration #9215

Rowan is a funny, playful, and high-spirited young boy who keeps everyone around him smiling. Always on the move, Rowan enjoys staying active with sports like football, karate, and even wa-

terskiing—a passion he's proud

of from his time in a water skiing club. He's especially proud to have earned his boating license at a young age! In addition to his athletic interests, Rowan has a creative side. He loves writing fictional stories and sharing them with others, using his vivid imagination to bring characters to life. He's always dreaming big—right now, he's determined to master a backflip to add to his growing karate skills. Rowan is also a big

country music fan and enjoys jamming out to his favorite tunes. His mix of energy, humor, and creativity makes him a truly unique and unforgettable kid.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/26230361683

Can I Adopt?

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

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

ing what's already inside you. **POSITIVELY** Athletes do it. Performers do it. continued from page A6 Therapists teach it.

> Visualization. Rehearsal. Mental reprogramming. To the brain, there's little difference between real and vividly imagined experiences—when you're fully immersed, your biology plays along.

So, who you imagine yourself to be—over and over—becomes your lived experience.

Do you have the courage to be vourself?

Or have you been playing a role for so long you forgot there was a difference?

You don't need to wait for someone to recreate your environment. You don't need to wait for permission. You can create the shift now. Change the channel in your mind. Step into the role you were born to play. Speak differently. Walk differently. Believe differently. And soon, you'll see that your results follow your role.

If five days of pretending to

be younger changed the lives of elderly men... imagine what six months could do for you.

"Live out of your imagination, not your history," wrote Stephen R. Covey

The question isn't whether it works. The science is there. The results are real.

The real question is: Who have you been pretending to be? And more importantly—Who are you ready to become?

Because in the end, identity isn't something you find. It's something you choose.

Because your identity isn't written in stone—it's written in action. And today is as good a day as begin the

rewrite.

Area residents named to dean's list at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — The following area students were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2025 semester at Quinnipiac University:

Auburn Morganne Lucier Christopher Willis

Dudley Christina Gunsalus Owyn Law

Oxford Nickole Biedrzycki Nicole Moore

Webster Jasmine Creighton Rachel Dube

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Parttime students must complete at least six credits during a semester. Names followed by an asterisk denotes with honors.

About Quinnipiac University Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 9,400 students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Computing and Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 388 Colleges." The university is in the midst of program expansion and renewal for both traditional and adult learners, attraction of diverse communities, development of innovative corporate partnerships and construction of an ambitious set of capital projects. For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook and follow Quinnipiac on X @QuinnipiacU.

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Chaffee Elementary second graders release butterflies in celebration of learning

OXFORD — It was a magical afternoon at Chaffee Elementary as Mrs. Roemer's second grade class gathered outside to release the butterflies they had raised over the past month. The event marked the end of an engaging science unit on the life cycle of butterflies, bringing their lessons to life in the most colorful way possible.

After weeks of caring for tiny caterpillars and observing each stage of metamorphosis, the students were filled with excitement as they surrounded Mrs. Roemer, who gently held the tank of fully developed butterflies. The moment the lid was lifted, awe swept across the group.

With arms stretched high and wide, the children welcomed the delicate creatures, thrilled as butterflies fluttered onto their hands, shoulders, and even their heads. Giggles and gasps of wonder filled the air as students marveled

at the butterflies' brilliant wings and gentle movements.

The butterfly release not only capped off a successful science unit, but it also offered students a deeper appreciation for nature and the world around them.

As the final butterfly took flight into the sunny sky, the students waved goodbye with smiles on their faces and a newfound sense of wonder in their hearts.



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Sheriff's Office launches new therapy dog program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

REGION — The dog days have arrived early this year, thanks to a new therapy dog program launched by the Worcester County Sheriff's Office (WCSO).

Made possible by an English Labrador Retriever named Milo, the WCSO's Therapy Dog Unit was created to enhance staff wellbeing, reduce workplace stress, and foster an even more supportive environment for employees.

Officer Lindsay McNamara, a 10-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, serves as Milo's handler. McNamara previously served in various WCSO units, including receiving, classifications, and line operations.

In her new role, McNamara oversees Milo's daily training and responsibilities around the facilities. This will ensure the Therapy Dog Unit provides emotional and mental health support to employees around the clock, officials said.

"We've been looking into this type of program for years," said Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "After speaking with partners in corrections across the state who have existing therapy dog programs, we determined this program would bring tremendous value to our daily operations."

Currently employing roughly 600 staff members, the WCSO is dedicated to maintaining a supportive and positive work environment. Officer McNamara looks forward to taking part in several programs with Milo that assist the staff. These include working alongside teams providing critical incident stress management, military peer support, and other offerings focused on employee wellbeing.

"I'm honored to step into this role alongside Milo, supporting the team I've worked with for over a decade," McNamara said. "Stressful situations are a daily occurrence in any jail or house of corrections, but we have systems in place to help employees manage stress. By combining my experience in corrections with the skills that Milo will develop through hundreds of hours of training, we'll be able to respond to various situations to connect with staff and help reduce anxiety and stress."

Studies show that therapy dogs help decrease stress for individuals exposed to high-stress environments or traumatic situations. Nationwide, employees with regular access to these support programs have reported improvements in workplace comfort and overall mental health.

"Just like police, fire, and other first responders, corrections officers have demanding and challenging jobs," Evangelidis said. "Access to mental health resources is crucial for ensuring our employees remain safe, happy, and healthy. Milo has made an immediate impact on the WCSO staff, who work diligently to keep the residents of Worcester County safe."

In addition to various internal K9 programs, the WCSO partners with Animal Assisted Therapy Services of Massachusetts. Through a contract with the organization, therapy dog handlers visit certain populations within the facility to help lower stress levels and reduce tensions among inmates in the housing blocks.

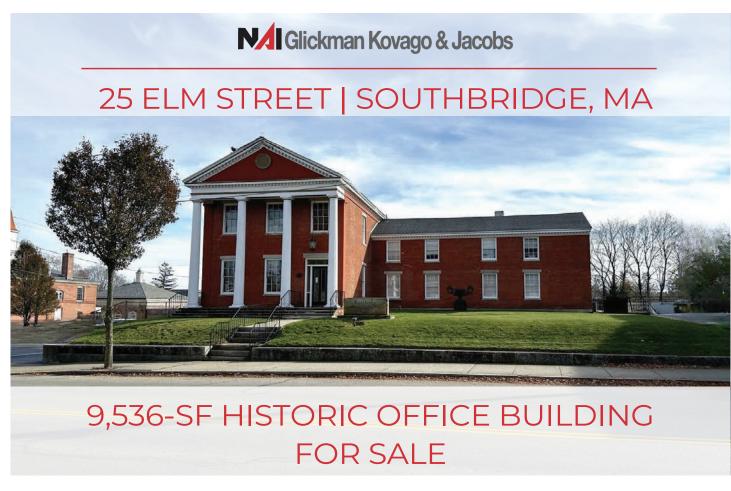
Evangelidis emphasized that prioritizing the mental health and wellbeing of staff leads to better outcomes for inmates.

"When employees are supported and maintain mental resilience, they can engage with inmates constructively and professionally," read a statement released by the WCSO. "This approach fosters a more rehabilitative environment within the facility. With the establishment of the Therapy K9 Unit, the Sheriff's Office reaffirms its commitment to the wellness of both its staff and the overall mission of rehabilitation."

To learn more about programs run by the WCSO, visit www. WorcesterCountySheriff.com.









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- Large Open Concept Cubicle Areas



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 Pagement: partial I Infinished
- Basement: partial | Unfinished





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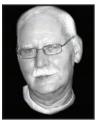


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OBITUARIES

Anthony S. Mielnicki, 81



OXFORD — Anthony S. Mielnicki, 81, died peacefully on Saturday, June 7, 2025, at the Rose Monahan Hospice Home in Worcester.

He is survived by three children, Sherri A. LaBouef and her partner William Conrad II of Oxford, Jeffrey E. Mielnicki and his fiance' Melissa Tarasiak of Rutland, and Mark Mielnicki and his wife Vickie of Loveland, OH; and six grandchildren, Taylor

LaBouef, Tanner LaBouef, Krysta Mielnicki, Jeffrey Mielnicki, Zakkary Mielnicki, and Kaitlin Mielnicki. He was predeceased by two brothers, Stanley Mielnicki and John Mielnicki.

He was born in Northbridge, son of the late Stanley and Anna (Bahleda) Mielnicki, was raised in Douglas and lived in Worcester for many years before moving to Oxford over 25 years ago. He was a U.S. Air Force Veteran of the Vietnam War. He then transferred to the Army National Guard and retired after 20+ years of service.

Mr. Mielnicki worked at State

Mutual in Worcester for many years. After retiring, he kept busy working multiple retail jobs including Spag's and Dick's Sporting Goods. He was a lifetime member of Singletary Rod and Gun Club in Oxford, and was also a member of the Rutland Sportsman Club. He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and fishing on his boat

All services will be held privately. Burial with military honors will be held privately for the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Rose Monahan Hospice Home, 10 Judith Rd, Worcester, MA 01602.

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

FAIR

continued from page A1

and perseverance—qualities that will aid them in any academic discipline they pursue.

Students who were awarded medals for their work include the following: Grade 5: First Place - Amadeusz Gacek: What type of bread turns moldy the fastest? Second Place - Severyn Kuznecki: Which shape of airplane wings makes it go the fastest? Third Place - TJ Belanger: How does the air pressure of a football affect its speed? Grade 6: First Place - Jacob Manzi: When I drop a coin, can people tell the difference according to the sound vibrations?

Second Place - Sophia

rings accurately predict a person's emotions? Third Place – Evelyn Macko: Using a filter and water from three sources, prove which is the cleanest. Grade 7: First Place - Tenleigh Dowd: Which Substance Promotes Root Growth Faster? Second Place -Neli Kuznecki: In What Environment Did Bread Grow Mold the Fastest? Third Place – Hayley Benes- Does Age Affect an After Image? Grade 8: First Place – Rosemary Basha: Is there an Ideal Shape for a Resonator? Second Place - Tobi Akindele: Which Type of Soap Removes the Most Bacteria? Third Place (tie) Gianna Pigeon: How Does Temperature Affect a Chemical Reaction?

Surowaniec: Do mood

and Faith Muga - Bubble Trouble: Which Type of Water Causes the Quickest Reaction with Alka-Seltzer? These projects not only demonstrated the students' understanding of scientific concepts but also their creativity.

Saint Joseph School is immensely proud of the effort and dedication shown by all students who participated in the Science Fair. Their exceptional work not only reinforced the importance of inquiry-based learning, critical thinking, and scientific exploration but also showcased the remarkable talents and creativity of our students. We are truly appreciative of their hard work and commitment to learning.

Dennis D. Dostoler, 67



DUDLEY – Dennis D. Dostoler, 67, of Korch Avenue, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, June 12, 2025, after a long battle with a rare form of Alzheimer's called Posterior Cortical Atrophy.

Dennis was the beloved husband and best friend of Denise M. (Cazeault) Dostoler, with whom he shared 43 beautiful years of marriage. He was a proud father to Matthew M. Dostoler and his wife Nicole of Webster, and Katelyn M. Battista and her husband Christopher of Dudley. Nothing brought Dennis more joy than being "Bampy" to his four grandchildren — Nolan, Avery, Rita, and Greta — who were the light of his life.

Born in Worcester, Dennis was the son of the late Harold K. and Irene A. (Mitchell) Dostoler. He grew up in Oxford and graduated from Oxford High School in 1975. For the past 40 years, he and Denise made their home in Dudley, where they filled their days with family, friends, and treasured traditions.

Dennis spent 35 years as a UPS "brownie" driver in Shrewsbury before retiring in 2014. After retirement, he enjoyed playing golf and riding his motorcycle, but his greatest happiness

came from the simple things: sitting on the deck, laughing with his grandkids, and sharing stories with loved ones.

He is survived by his siblings: Michael Dostoler and his wife Elizabeth of Webster, Kenneth Dostoler of Worcester, Sharon Sneade and her husband John of Arizona, and Michelle Badgett and her husband Jimmy of North Carolina. He was also a loving brother-in-law to Michael Cazeault and his wife Norma of Oxford, and Diane Proffer and her husband Stephen of Oxford. He was predeceased by his sister, Carol Roseen, whom he now joins in eternal peace.

Dennis's family would like to express their deepest gratitude to Christy and Pam from Care Central VNA and Hospice, and Jen from Laura's Guardian Angels, whose compassion and care brought comfort during his final days.

Memorial calling hours will be held on Sunday, June 22, 2025, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main Street, Oxford. A service will be held at 4:00 at the conclusion of calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dennis's memory to the Alzheimer's Association, 320 Nevada Street, Suite 201, Newton, MA 02460.

Though Dennis has left this world, his legacy will live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

Local residents earn degrees at Clark University's Commencement exercises

WORCESTER — Clark University awarded 468 undergraduate degrees and 1,014 advanced degrees during two ceremonies as part of the University's 121st Commencement exercises, held at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass., on Monday, May 19.

Patrick Cunningham, of Auburn, graduated with a Master of Public Administration. Cunningham is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society.

Diane Sarah Allain, of Auburn, graduated with a Master of Science in Information Technology. Allain is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society.

Jeffrey L. DiPadua, of Auburn, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts.

Eric Howarth, of Auburn, graduated with a Master of Public Administration. Juliana Maldonado, of Oxford, graduated with a Master of Arts in Teaching.

Julia Costa Severo, of Webster, graduated with a Master of Science in Business Analytics.

President David B. Fithian '87 urged the graduates to celebrate their accomplishments.

"For this day, smile upon yourself, applaud your achievements, reflect upon your growth, celebrate your friends and classmates and, perhaps most importantly, bask in the love of those here with you and for you," President Fithian

"All of us up here representing the trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and alumni are so proud of you, especially for overcoming all that you have had to in the past four years. We are smiling upon you, we applaud you, we celebrate you, and we thank you for sharing these years with us."

Esther Duflo, the Abdul Latif Jameel Professor of Poverty Alleviation and Development Economics in the Department of Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, delivered the Commencement Address during the bachelor's degree ceremony and was presented with the degree of Doctor of Laws.

"I have no advice for you as you embark on this task, but I have one plea. Do not let anyone convince you that the world is a Hobbesian dystopia where everything is zero-sum and wealth is the ultimate metric of success. It's not a place where there is a concentric center

of caring, and beyond some radius, the value of others is zero. Think about this day, about how you got here, remember the kindness of many, and ask yourself what you can do to keep that going," said Duflo.

Temera De Groot, a first-generation college student who emigrated from Guyana when she was 10 years old and plans to pursue law school, spoke to her peers at the undergraduate ceremony.

NPR journalist Ari Shapiro spoke to the students receiving master's and doctoral degrees, and encouraged them to prioritize connecting with and helping those around them.

"All of us carry a baton that our ancestors handed us. And all of us will pass it to those who come after us. Wherever we are in that relay race, there are people we can help. So the question we need to ask is, 'How can I be helpful?" Shapiro told the crowd.

Shapiro was presented with an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the afternoon ceremony.

Kumar Gauray, a first-generation college student from India who received his MBA, also spoke at the graduate ceremony.

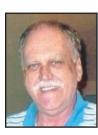
President David Fithian concluded the day's celebrations and told the graduates, "I applaud you. I congratulate you. And I urge you to put to work - anywhere in the world you find yourself next - the knowledge you have developed and the skills you have honed here to address the challenges and opportunities we face as global citizens."

The University conferred 975 Master's and 39 doctoral degrees to a class that included graduates from 41 states and

For more coverage of Clark's Commencement ceremonies, visit the web

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

Earl Holmberg, 78



OXFORD – Earl Holmberg, 78, of Main Street, died peacefully on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at Fairlawn Rehabilitation Hospital in Worcester, after a battle with lung cancer.

He is survived by two brothers, Paul M. Holmberg of Oxford, and Carl F. Holmberg and his wife Dorothy of New Hampshire; two nephews, Craig P. Holmberg and his wife Cathleen of Oxford, and Carl Holmberg and his wife Dawn of Manchester, NH; a great niece, Nicole Cingari and her spouse Caroline of Denver, CO; a great-nephew, Aaron Holmberg and his wife Jessica Chen of East Providence, RI; and many close friends.

He was predeceased by his sister-inlaw, Constance M. Holmberg; and his niece, Marcia A. Holmberg.

He was born in Webster, son of the late Lars and Hedevig (Marker) Holmberg, and lived most of his life in Oxford. He graduated from Oxford High School in 1965. He was a proud U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Mr. Holmberg worked at Computer Services Corporation in Norwich, CT, for many years. Previously he worked for Miami Lincoln Mercury in Miami, FL. He was a member of the Oxford Fire Department for many years, and volunteered at the Huguenot Steamer Fire Museum in North Oxford. He also worked to save Huguenot Hall, the former North Oxford Fire Station, before it became the museum.

Earl had a keen interest in the history of Oxford. He was a former member of the Historical

Commission in Oxford, and was a key contributor to the publications "Oxford Massachusetts 300 Years 1713-2013" and "Oxford's Greatest Generation," honoring veterans who made Oxford their home. In 2014, he was honored by the Oxford Business Association as Citizen of the Year.

Earl was an avid collector, especially of old prints and baseball cards. His hobbies included photography, attending flea markets, and woodworking. He had a great love of music. He attended Woodstock in 1969, and frequently drove friends to rock clubs in Boston using his hearse when he was young.

Calling hours are Friday, July 11, 2025, from 4-7 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. A time of remembrances by family and friends will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 12, 2025, at the funeral home. Burial with military honors will follow at North Cemetery in Oxford.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Huguenot Steamer No. 1 Fire Museum in North Oxford.



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

Local students named to Stonehill College Dean's List

EASTON, Mass. — Stonehill College is pleased to recognize the students named to the Spring 2025 Dean's List. To qualify for this recognition, students must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better. They must also have successfully completed all courses for which they were registered during the term.

Isabella Therrien of Auburn Briana Reidy of Auburn Patrick LeClair of Oxford Remonda Mankarios of Dudley Matthew Anderson of Webster

About Stonehill College Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inher-

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for more than 2,500

ent dignity of each person.

Stonehill College educates the whole

person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

Auburn resident named Dean's List at Fairfield University

FAIRFIELD, Conn. — Sofia Fortunato of Auburn earned Dean's List Honors for the Spring 2025 semester at Fairfield University.

In order to be placed on the Dean's List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

www.StonebridgePress.com

Local students graduate from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College proudly congratulates the spring 2025 graduating class, who earned their academic degrees at the College's commencement ceremony on May 3, 2025, at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. Anne F. Ackerley, a senior advisor to the retirement business at BlackRock and former head of the firm's U.S. Retirement Group, delivered the commencement address.

The following local students earned the degrees

Catherine Hoey, of Auburn, earned a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership

Brooke Bowes, of Dudley earned a Bachelor of Arts

Katrina Mrzyglod, of Webster, earned a Bachelor

Samuel Tashjian, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of

Evan Healy, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Anthony Awad, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Brandon Boucher, of Webster, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Erin Bouffard, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Benjamin Kallgren, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Liam Keegan, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Alexander Laws, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Matthew Livsey, of Webster, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Nicolas Micciche, of Oxford, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Andrew Nee, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Chris Surman, of Dudley, earned a Bachelor of

Science in Business Administration Tori Vitikos, of Webster, earned a Bachelor of

Science in Business Administration Andrew Makowiecki, of Oxford, earned a Master of

Science in Accounting Ryan Spitz, of Webster, earned a Master of Science

in Counterterrorism We applaud these students for their achievement.

About Nichols College

Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

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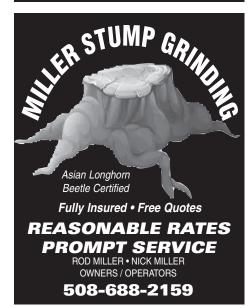
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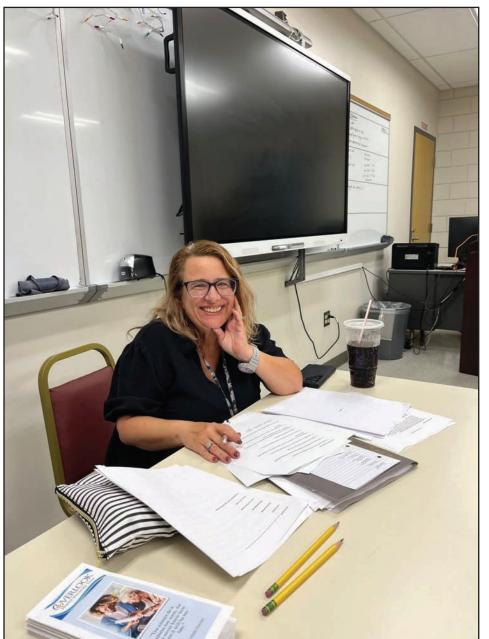
Sturbridge Villager

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Bay Path Practical Nursing students sharpen interview skills through mock sessions with healthcare leaders

CHARLTON — Dana them!" Aspero, Director of Hospice at The Overlook, recently conducted mock interviews with the Practical Nursing (PN) Class of 2025 at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. This annual tradition allows students to engage in realistic job interview simulations with actual members of the healthcare community, providing essential practice before they begin their careers.

Each year, members of the graduating PN cohort participate in these mock interviews — a "trial by fire" designed to replicate the experience of interviewing for an entry-level nursing position. This year, Aspero was so impressed with the students that she remarked, "They are all

The interviews are held on campus and are a key component of the Transition into Practice course, led by Professor Melissa Zeien, BSN, RN, WCC. Professor Zeien not only prepares the students for the interviews but also manages the logistics — from scheduling volunteer interviewers to guiding students in refining their résumés and cover let-

"The idea is that when our graduates walk into their first real interview for that coveted new grad position, they'll feel more confident and prepared because they've already experienced the process," explained Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy

Preparation for this

moment begins as soon as students enter Bay Path. Over the course of the program, students build a comprehensive academic portfolio that documents their clinical experience, observations, volunteer service, and participation in initiatives like the Mock Code Team.

The mock interview experience is made possible thanks to generous volunteers from the healthcare field. These professionals see their participation not only as a way to give back but also as a vital part of strengthening the nursing pipeline and supporting the continued growth and reputation of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. Their involvement is deeply appreciated by faculty and students

Area residents attend Sheriff's Office Senior Picnic

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

REGION — Residents from throughout the Route 9 corridor welcomed summer by attending the Senior Picnic offered by the Worcester County

Sheriff's Office (WCSO).

For more than 1,000 seniors in Worcester County, the annual picnic is a highly anticipated event that kicks off the summer season.

This year, seniors from all corners of Worcester County attended the June 7 program at SAC Park in Shrewsbury. Many guests from Spencer, the Brookfields communities, and surrounding towns drove through the park to receive a free barbeque lunch and many other giveaways.

'The Senior Picnic is one of my favorite days of the year, and we strive to provide the best experience possible for attendees," said Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "In addition to the numerous treats and giveaways that we hand out, we also have over a dozen vendors on site to speak with seniors about programs, products, and services that they may benefit from."

The program is made possible by teamwork from the WCSO, the Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff's Association, and various vendors and sponsors.

'Sheriff Evangelidis and his team have honored Worcester County's senior citizens for over a decade," read a statement released by the WCSO. "Each summer, more than 100 volunteers prepare barbecue boxed lunches and hand out other raffle prizes, goodie bags, Massachusetts state lottery scratch tickets, Chick-fil-A gift cards, and more. For all involved, it's a special time filled with fun and community spirit."

This year, Janet Morin, Carolyn Boucher, Gen Cook, and Diana Perronwho live in the Brookfields communities and attend the picnic each yearenjoyed an opportunity to step out of their vehicle and take a photo with Sheriff Evangelidis. They even wore custom T-shirts celebrating the picnic.

Officials thank all volunteers who support local seniors each year at the event, helping to distribute products while also connecting guests with resources.

"It is the dedicated group of volunteers who make this event possible year after year. Despite the unfavorable weather forecast, Mother Nature granted a nice morning, which encouraged seniors to attend," read the statement issued by the WCSO.

This year's picnic was sponsored or supported by several community partners, including Table Talk Pies, Mercadante Funeral Home, Massachusetts State Lottery, Chick-Fil-A, Automatic Rolls of New England, JV Mechanical Contractors, Inc., Diamond Auto Group, Falcone Enterprises, NEPBA Local 550, the Savickas Family, and the Worcester Housing Authority.

Vendors at the picnic included Worcester County District Attorney Joesph Early, Central Mass Housing Alliance, Vickstrom Law Office, CareOne at Millbury, Rockland Trust Bank, The Overlook, the Worcester Red Sox, Tri-Valley, Inc., Saint Francis Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Senior Connection, and Heart to Home Meals.

Students and staff members from Worcester Technical High School are also thanked for volunteering their time to help make the day memorable for



Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis greets residents from the Brookfields communities during an annual senior picnic.

Cornerstone Bank steps up: donations fuel life-changing mentorships

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has made two generous donations totaling \$30,000 to support children in need through individual mentoring. The contribution will help fund programs run by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Massachusetts & Metrowest.

"We know that mentoring helps children realize their potential," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "Role models can set kids up for success. We're grateful to be able to support this wonderful mission."

Cornerstone donated \$25,000 as part of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Big Celebration which was held on Saturday, April 5. The bank was the main "Big Vibe Sponsor" and Tallman was an honoree, being recognized for 10 years of service and his commitment to the organization. Tallman serves as treasurer of the board of directors.

An additional \$5,000 contribution is going toward the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Massachusetts & Metrowest Golf Fore Kids tournament at the Marlborough Country Club, coming up on Monday, May 19.

"We hope the financial support allows for even more partnerships between

children and adults in the community," said Tallman. "It goes both ways. Littles are empowered while their Bigs are also fulfilled in ways they couldn't have imagined. That's the magic of Big Brothers Big Sisters."

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank. com or call 800-939-9103.

Cornerstone Bank supporting efforts to serve vulnerable populations Worcester

WORCESTER - Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with throughout locations Central Massachusetts, is donating money to support Wellstorm, Inc., a Southbridge-based charity providing resources to families facing homelessness, mental health challenges and food insecurity. The \$5,000 contribution goes toward the organization's Christmas in July event scheduled for July 12.

"This event is a realfun way to uplift the important work Wellstorm does every day," said Cornerstone CEO Todd Tallman. "We know the high cost of housing has left some families in crisis, and the emotional impact can be devastating. Wellstorm offers a lifeline."

According Wellstorm, the Christmas in July event is a crucial fundraising platform allowing for the expansion of its services, including "the bridge fridge," a well-stocked community refrigerator full of pantry essentials for both humans and pets. The organization also provides mental health services, peer support programs and educational support for underserved populations such as those in BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities, the elderly, veterans, people with disabilities and those facing homelessness.

"A helping hand can go a long way in times of need," said Tallman. "We hope people find some comfort knowing their neighbors care, and they are not forgotten."

About Cornerstone

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Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch throughout locations Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities, through a broad range of deposit and loan products, and services. Built on Trust is not just a tag line, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit CornerstoneBank. com or call 800-939-9103.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



DAR

continued from page A1

and gear, but received daily rations that "often ran short, so soldiers and militia relied on food brought from home, wild foods they gathered, hunted game, or 'liberated food," Schmidt adds. That militia typically wasn't as welltrained as the Continental Army and allegedly had a "fondness for plunder."

Beltram said the process for validating Revolutionary ancestors and getting plaques for their graves is a fairly complex one, but "there may already be somebody in [the DAR] database" who used the same person to join the DAR. "There has to be a direct line, but you can zig and zag" to get there and have to document how that patriot served, she noted.

With this year's 250th Anniversary commemorations (termed both our Sestercentennial and our Semiquincentennial), DAR and its kindred groups – the Sons of the American Revolution and Children of the American Revolution – have seen growth in interest and "they've needed many more genealogists," she added.

According to DAR's Web site (dar.org), the organization formed in Washington, D.C. in 1890 to promote historical, educational and patriotic activity. Over the years, it has aided various war efforts, assisted Ellis Island immigrants, hosted the 1921-2 Conference on the Limitation of Armaments, raised funds to help a 1940s forestry project, and chapters have engaged in many local activities.

Women felt the desire to express their patriotic feelings and were frustrated by their exclusion from men's organizations formed to perpetuate the memory of ancestors who fought to make this country free and independent," the site states of DAR's founding motivation.

There are several DAR chapters in our region besides this one based in Douglas. They include Oxford's Gen Ebenezar Learned Chapter, Uxbridge's Deborah Wheelock Chapter and Worcester's Col Timothy Bigelow

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

WATERLINE

OXFORD

continued from page A1

continued from page A1

dump. The engineer indicated that we could apply for the SRF next year, so hopefully the terms will be the same," Selectman Steven Sullivan said. "It almost passed. There wasn't a huge turnout, but there were people there, there were questions, so the feeling we had in our discussions was not to rush to a special public meeting because it would look like we were trying to do something nefarious.

The idea of moving the landfill is not seen as a viable option as it would require Dudley to find somewhere that would accept contaminated material and wouldn't necessarily solve any problems

they carry with them long after

each visit, and speak about often

with genuine pride. This initia-

tive is a beautiful reminder of

the power of kindness, and the

impact our young leaders can have

ber Marie Cosentino chose to be

the head of the council's Senior

Citizen committee after having

personal connections with her

Oxford Student Council mem-

beyond the walls of our school."

of existing contamination in the soils. Town officials have long stated that adding the public water line is the most cost effective, and to many the only real long-term solution. But selectmen understand that in order to earn support they need to approach the next few months properly to allow citizens to make an informed decision regardless of whether its for or against the project.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda reminded selectmen than the vote was close, so there is already support; it's just a matter of addressing the concerns and providing better education about the need for the water line.

"The article itself passed by a simple majority and didn't gain two-third support by five or six

elderly residents of the hospital

deserve the love and affection

we all get and give to others," Cosentino states. "We need to

show them we care for them no

to the Oxford Student Council to

participate in a Flag Day celebra-

tion. On Friday, June 13, about 15

Oxford students and staff spent

the afternoon helping Overlook

residents and staff with setting

up 2.400 American flags into the

In addition, DeJong reached out

'Residents of the Overlook

her grandparents were at.

matter what.

votes, so if it's a matter of providing more information and giving people in that neighborhood the opportunity to make a more informed vote and maybe come to the meeting and vote for it or against it but at least come to the meeting, that might help. I think this is a good course of action,' said Ruda.

The town will reapply for SRF funds before the end of July and, in the meantime will be focusing on providing more public awareness and information sessions prior to the October special town meeting. A presentation of the grant funded design for the waterline project has been made public through the April 28 Board of Selectmen meeting on the Town of Dudley YouTube channel.

Students, residents, and staff then joined in on a Flag Day celebration where members of the Oxford NJROTC color guard presented the colors, Juniors Drew Nieber and Rosy Krantz sang the National Anthem, and several students and residents recited poems in honor

"Having the students from Oxford High School at The Overlook creates a sense of joy, connection, and mutual respect between generations," DeJong. "It's been beautiful to witness the bonds that form through shared experiences like the prom

grandparents during her childgrounds of the Overlook, as a way hood and after connecting with to engage in a moment of unity.

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. WO25P1913EA **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE** Estate Of:

Patricia A Demetrick Date of Death: March 18, 2025

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner

Laura Small of Auburn MA a Will has been admitted to informal

probate. Laura Small of Auburn MA

has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without Surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. June 20, 2025

TOWN OF DUDLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 71 WEST MAIN STREET, **DUDLEY MA 01571**

Please take notice that: Norman Boilard Has applied to the Zoning Board of Appeals to vary the terms of the Zoning By-Laws Section: 2.03.02 Density Regulations

Location: 21 Intervale Road In the following respect: Special Permit for Chickens

The Public Hearing will be held on Thursday July 10, 2025 @ 7:00pm at the Town Hall room 321A, at which time you may be hard relative to this Public Hearing.

Please contact Amanda Jacobson at 508-949-8012 or building@dudleyma. gov to attend the meeting. George Slingo,

Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals. June 20, 2025

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. WO25P2019EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate Of: Margaret Elizabeth Ryan Date of Death: 03/23/2025

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by David A Ryan of Douglas 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:

David A Ryan of Douglas 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 07/08/2025.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 05, 2025

Stephanie Fattman. Register of Probate June 20, 2025

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. WO24P1005EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL **REPRESENTATIVE**

Estate of: Alan Gene Broden Also known as: Alan Broden, Alan G Broden Date of Death: 02/10/2024

To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by Robert L. Broden of Mariboro NY requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that:

Lina E. Singer of Brooklyn NY be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 07/08/2025.

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.

The estate is being adminstered under

formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: June 05, 2025 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate June 20, 2025

TOWN OF DUDLEY MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

June 11, 2025

The Dudley Historical Commission is in receipt of an application for a demolition permit

For Nichols 99 Center Road, Dudley, MA 01571

A public hearing will be held as per section 12.04.00 of the Dudley MA Demolition Delay Bylaw, at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571

On Tuesday, July 1, 2025

at 6:40 pm, in Room 315. A representative of the property owner must attend. "Within forty five (45) days of the Commission's receipt of a copy of the application for a demolition permit, the Commission shall hold a public hearing on such application, and shall make a determination as to whether the structure is a significant structure under one or more criteria set forth in sections 12.05.00a, and 12.05.00b. The Commission shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing, not less than seven (7) days prior to the hearing, to the owner by certified mail, and by posting and by publication once in a local newspaper. The Commission may conduct a site visit prior to the hearing." Respectfully,

David Proulx, Secretary **Dudley Historical Commission** (revised 11/2018) June 20, 2025

June 12, 2025

The Dudley Historical Commission is in receipt of an application for a demolition permit

For 5 Cottage Road, Dudley, MA 01571 A public hearing will be held as per section 12.04.00 of the Dudley MA Demolition Delay Bylaw, at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main

Street, Dudley, MA 01571 On Tuesday, July 1, 2025

at 6:55 pm, in Room 315. A representative of the property owner must attend.

"Within forty five (45) days of the Commission's receipt of a copy of the application for a demolition permit, the Commission shall hold a public hearing on such application, and shall make a determination as to whether the structure is a significant structure under one or more criteria set forth in sections 12.05.00a, and 12.05.00b. The Commission shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing, not less than seven (7) days prior to the hearing, to the owner by certified mail, and by posting and by publication once in a local newspaper. The Commission may conduct a site visit prior to the hearing."

Respectfully, David Proulx, Secretary **Dudley Historical Commission** (revised 11/2018) June 20, 2025

of Flag Day.

and Flag Day.'

Pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 105A, the contents of the following spaces:

D6 (Scott Jordan) & D92 (Scott Everitt) located at 144 Schofield

A venue, Dudley, MA will be sold to satisfy the owners lien of Storage Plus. Sale date is June 2.5, 2025 @1:00 PM. Inspection between 12:30 PM and 1:00 PM on June 25, 2025. Sealed bids must be hand delivered by 1:00 PM on June 25, 2025. All goods must be purchased with cash as is, and must be removed within 48 hours of sale. Owner has the right to bid to protect his lien and to withdraw any unit upon settlement by the obligated party up for sale. For further information call (413)245-4388.

May 13, 2025 May 20, 2025

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. WO25P2051EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate Of:

Mark J Gracyalny Also known as: Mark Gracyalny Date of Death: 05/03/2025

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Shelly Matte of Webster MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Shelly Matte of Webster MA**

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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 07/08/2025.

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: June 09, 2025 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate June 20, 2025

Bay Path nursing students volunteer at blood pressure clinic



CHARLTON — Michelle Drumm, C.D.P., Director of the Charlton Council on Aging, recently expressed her appreciation for the Practical Nursing student volunteers from the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy's Class of 2025. The Academy has concluded its free blood pressure screening initiative for the academic year, which was held monthly at the Charlton Senior Center.

Throughout the school year, Practical Nursing students volunteered their time on the last Wednesday of each month, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., at the Charlton Senior Center located at 37 Main St. These screenings provided seniors with valuable insights into their cardiovascu-

"It is wonderful to see our Practical Nursing student volunteers complete another successful year of service at the Charlton Senior Center under Michelle's leadership," said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Director of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. "Hypertension remains one of the most common chronic conditions in the U.S., and it's crucial for individuals to be aware of their blood pressure. Often, there are no warning signs or symp-

According to the American Heart Association, one in three U.S. adults has high blood pressure. Of those, 22 percent are unaware of their condition, 69 percent are receiving treatment, and only 45 percent have their blood pressure under control. The free screenings aim to promote awareness and encourage seniors to make regular blood pressure monitoring part of their healthcare routine.

The final student volunteers for this academic year were Bobbie Jo Smith of North Brookfield and Katelyn Smith of Charlton, both members of the Practical Nursing Class of 2025. Bobbie Jo has served as a Shift Supervisor with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for over eight years, working in the North Central Group Homes. She was recently inducted into the National Technical Honor Society. Katelyn, a 2018 graduate of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School's Cosmetology program, is also a proud member of the current nursing class.

Both students are certified in Mental Health First Aid and Dementia Care and have completed specialized training in Domestic Violence, reflecting their commitment to comprehensive, compas-

Webster Five Foundation awards \$101,000 in largest-ever quarterly grant cycle

AUBURN Webster Five Foundation is proud to unveil its latest round of charitable giving, awarding \$101,000 in grants to 32 nonprofit organizations across Massachusetts. This cycle marks the Foundation's single-quarter distribution, both in total funding and number of recipients, since its

founding in 1996. With 29 of the 32 grant recipients located in Worcester County, this record-setting second-quarter cycle reinforces the Foundation's deep-rooted commitment to addressing local needs and building stronger communities where Webster Five has long served as both a financial institution and a community partner.

Each quarter, the provides Foundation grants to nonprofit organizations or programs that support expanding or improving access to education, culture and the arts, social services. charitable activities and community development.

The following organizations received grants in this cycle:

African Community Education Program, Inc. - \$1,000

Apple Tree Arts, Inc. —

The Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc.

\$2,500 Bottom Line, Inc. —

Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance

C.H.E.E.R.S. (Community, Health, Equity, Empowerment, Resources, and Service) - \$1,000

City to Saddle, Inc. —

Crocodile River Music, Inc. — \$2,500

Dismas House of Massachusetts, Inc. –

Dress for Success Worcester, Inc. — \$3,500 EcoTarium — \$3,000

Family Health Center f Worcester — \$10,000 Girls on the Run Worcester County, Inc. -\$1,000

Worcester Greater Community Foundation \$7,000

Habitat for Humanity MetroWest/Greater Worcester — \$3,000

Jewish Healthcare Center, Inc. — \$5,000 for

3 years South Main Community Development

Corporation — \$5,000 Mustard Seed Catholic Worker Community, Inc.

\$2,500 School of Nativity Worcester — \$5,000 as the second installment of a \$15,000 multi-year grant

Overlook Food Awareness Resource of Mass. Inc. — \$1.000 with a

\$1,000 match Pathways for Change, Inc. — \$4,000

Child Rainbow Development Center -\$6,000

Rawkstars, Inc. \$1,000

RCAP Solutions, Inc. \$1,500

New England — \$2,500 Senior Connection, Inc. \$3,000

Shrewsbury Youth and Family Services, Inc. —

Collective — \$2,000

Worcester Mission Society, United Association of Two-Year Church of Christ—\$3,000 Colleges (NEMATYC) Worcester Children's Chorus — \$1,000

Worcester Education Collaborative — \$1,000 Worcester Symphony Orchestra — \$1,000

"At Webster Five, we've always considered it a privilege to be part of this community – not just as a bank, but as a neighbor," said Don Doyle, President/CEO, Webster "Through Five. the Foundation, we're able to celebrate and support the meaningful work happening all around us. This grant cycle, the largest in our history, reflects our deep belief in community organizations and the impact they continue to

Bay Path Continuing Education launches fall term preview

CHARLTON — Bay Continuing Education announced their Fall Term preview Sunday, June 8. This season promises to be the most engaging yet, featuring over 80 brand-new classes designed to spark creativity, build skills, and bring families together. In total, this makes more than 140 classes offered.

Registration opens July – no catalog needed

Starting Monday, July 7, people can register online for a wide range of courses without needing the Fall Catalog, which will be released in late July/ Early August. Classes officially begin on Monday, Sept. 9.

A focus on family collaboration and hands-on learning

This fall, the Evening School is emphasizing interactive, hands-on experiences, with a major expansion of adult and child collaborative classes, especially in art and cooking.

From Cake Decorating and Pasta Making to Zentangle workshops, Soap Making, and Clay Tile Making, families will find numerous opportunities to create side by side and share meaningful

experiences together. Cooking classes are receiving a flavorful boost with enhanced offerings, including Asian cuisine featuring workshops Pad Thai, Korean BBQ, and more. Themed pasta nights—such as Candy-Shaped Pasta, Flower Petal Pasta, and Santa Hat Pasta—add a creative twist to traditional favor-

Additionally, new this season is the Evening Delights series, where participants can craft their own charcuterie boards and take home their edible masterpieces.

Whether you're kneading dough, shaping soap, or sculpting clay, this fall's lineup offers countless ways for families and individuals to learn, connect, and create.

Diverse offerings across categories

The Fall lineup spans a wide range of interests, careers, and skills, ensuring there's something for every learner.

Down to Business

Business and finance: Explore the world of real estate with the new Let's Talk Real Estate series, designed for aspiring investors and homebuyers looking to build knowledge and confidence.

Career and licensing: Advance your career on your schedule with a selfpaced Electrical Motor Control lab. Dive into the world of bookkeeping, or sharpen your beauty skills by Perfecting the Art of Lashing.

Fun & Play

Hobbies and crafts: Get creative with handson workshops in rubber duckie soap-making,Floral Design body balms, sugar scrubs, quilled paper pendants, pottery, modern calligraphy, and In need of a change of scenery? Try Watercolor in Nature, a series of painting classes held at scenic outdoor locations. Sports and leisure: Get certified with Boat America, a course that meets boating education

requirements and ensures you're safe and prepared on the water. Build confidence with Paddling workshops, express your creativity in Songwriting sessions, and learn the timeless strategy of the classic card game Cribbage.

Mind & Body

Growth & development: A new resilience-building workshop for parents focusing on self-compassion and emotional well-being.

Health & fitness: New Yoga for All class designed for individuals of backgrounds and experience levels.

Opening new doors

Explore a trade: Take your first step into a skilled trade with introductory courses in leather working and blacksmithing. Forge your own full-tang knife, learn the basics of auto body work, or get practical, hands-on training toward becoming an electrical apprentice.

Home & Garden: Prepare for a thriving garden with Seed Starting 101 and Gardening with Native Plants—ideal for both beginners and seasoned green thumbs looking to plan ahead for the growing season.

Register early secure your spot

With so many new classes, participants are encouraged to register early starting July 7 to secure their spot at www. baypath.net/bpce to explore the full course catalog and sign up.

This fall promises to be a season of discovery, learning, and family bonding-don't miss out!

QCC Math Team scores double victory

W O R C E S T E RQuinsigamond Reach Out and Read Community College has secured two first-place victories in regional mathematics competitions. The QCC math team has been awarded the Lois A. Martin Student Math Webster Water Ski League Award for placollective — \$2,000 ing first among all New Area England Mathematical Math League Student teams, while simultaneously claiming first place in the entire Northeast Region of the American Mathematical Association Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC) Student Math

League competition. Under guidthe ance of Professor of Ibar Mathematics Delacruz, who served as the team's moderator, QCC students tackled complex mathematical challenges throughout the competition. The team's success reflects not only the students' mathematical abilities, but also the supportive learning environment of QCC.

"It's fun. I enjoy solving math problems," said Ben Carpenter, one of the top-scoring students.

With a background in IT, Carpenter found that math courses at QCC provide good practice for how computers operate and hopes to pursue a career in cybersecurity. He shared how his mathematical talents were recognized by Professor of Mathematics Steve Zona, who invited him to help outside of class, eventually leading Ben to become a

"Now people I have tutored are becoming tutors as well," Carpenter noted.

Isabel Thies, another top performer, shared a different journey. She didn't enjoy math in high school and came to QCC as an undecided major. But Theis's professors noticed her abilities and encouraged her to explore mathematics. She ended up joining the Liberal Arts-Mathematics program and sees a future in scientific research and innovation.

For Thies, the competition provided unexpected opportunities.

It was really exciting to represent QCC and our math program, especially because we were going up

against some big competitors," Thies said, adding, "I've found a math_community here, which I was not expecting."

Team member Quoc Le, who "really loves math and talking to people about math," expressed a similar sentiment of belonging between math-focused students. He plans to pursue mechanical or electrical engineering but expressed interest in keeping in touch with other QCC students.

Fellow team member Vijay Kesavan noted the alignment between their QCC coursework and what's offered at other renowned institutions.

"MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) has open tests available. Looking at them, I saw a lot of overlap with Professor De La Cruz's class," he said.

All of these award-winning students have been accepted to Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) for the fall semester, demonstrating how QCC's mathematics program serves as a foundation for continued academic suc-

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WAR RELICS &

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Bay Path Practical Nursing students attend prestigious Women's Leadership Conference on scholarship

CHARLTON — Seven students from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy — Elizabeth Achayo, Rachel Anane, and Natasha Rovan of Worcester; Chali Desrosiers of Oxford; Ashley Rincon and Giselle Rosario of Southbridge; and Delene Sarsfield of Charlton — attended the esteemed 2025 Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and Worcester Women's Leadership Committee (WWLC) Conference on scholarship.

Stefanie Silva, Programs and Events Coordinator for the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, personally congratulated the students via email upon their acceptance to the event. "We are SO excited to see you all at the DCU Center to celebrate our Sweet 16!" Silva wrote, referencing the conference's 16th

Held on Thursday, June 12 at the Worcester DCU Center, the one-day conference drew more than 700 attendees, primarily women professionals from across the region. Now in its 16th year, the Worcester Women's Leadership Conference is the largest event of its kind in Central Massachusetts, offering participants invaluable opportunities for business networking, professional development, and personal growth.

The conference aims to empower and inspire women by addressing issues that impact both their personal and professional lives. "Thank you to our Presenting Sponsors, The Hanover Insurance Group Inc. and UMass Memorial Health, for their continued support, along with all of our incredible sponsors who help make Central MA's largest women's conference possible," added Silva.

The scholarship opportunity provides an inspiring platform for the Bay Path nursing students to broaden their leadership skills and connect with a diverse network of women leaders throughout the region.





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Featured New Listing

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SF₄-/ of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 9' Ceilings. Open Concept Plan. Wood Flooring Throughout w/Ceramic Tile Floors in the 2-1/2 Baths. Spacious Main BR Suite w/Walk-in Closet & Private Full Bath w/5' Tiled Shower, Double-Sink Vorbid Lewer Level wellert w/Sidney. ble-Sink Vanity! Lower level walkout w/Slider. Basement-rough plumbed for future expansion. FHA Heat & Central AC! Garage. **\$649,900.**

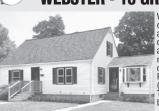


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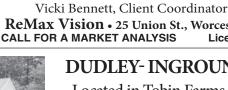
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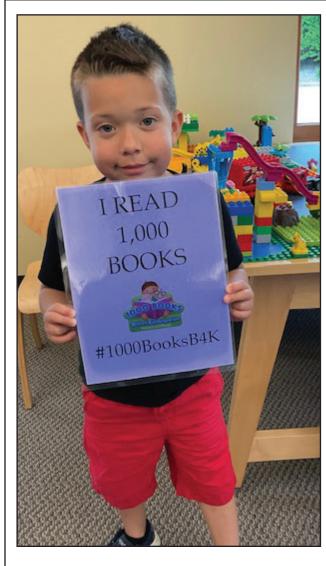
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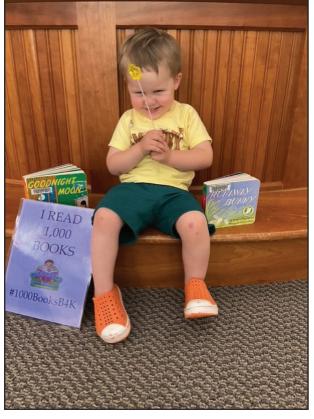
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Congratulations are in order for Jullian, Henry, and Charlotte for reaching their goal of completing the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program at the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library. Jullian finished at the end of May, while Henry and Charlotte finished up in early June. Way to go, everyone! The 1,000 Books Foundation's mission is to promote reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers, and to encourage parent and child bonding through reading. The 1,000 BBK challenge at the Crawford Library is funded by the Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library.



Congratulations to the following students who were selected as May Students of the Month at St. Joseph School — Pre-K 3-year-old: Roman Hogan; Pre-K 4-year-old: Faustyna Kicilinski; Kindergarten: Elena Salem; Grade 1: Gianna Dowd; Grade 2: Michaela Chege; Grade 3: Amalina Khozami; Grade 4: Rylan Shemansky; Grade 5: Giorgios Sgouritsas; Grade 6: Sophia Surowaniec; Grade 7: Jacob Lopez; Grade 8: Gianna Pigeon. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!



Webster U10 soccer recently completed an undefeated season in Division 2. Back Row: Coach Mike Shelburne, Carter Meehan, Callum Bergman, Javyan Lama, Brock Mellen, Owen Shelburne, Coach Marcus Buzanoski. Front Row: Connor Pinto, Kaleb Goulet, Maxx Dunkley, Max Buzanoski, Noah Long, Brayden Shelburne.





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