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Friday, November 18, 2022

Planning Board approves Nichols Townhouse project

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Dudley Planning Board concluded the public hearing process concerning the proposed townhouses at Nichols College during their Nov. 9 meeting, officially approving the project with several conditions.

The discussion was by far the shortest debate the project has received to date. The initiative would erect new housing for students to replace modular structures and has been touted as a potential recruiting tool for bringing in students in an increasingly competitive environment. The project was initially proposed in July and revisited in October when the Planning Board continued the hearing once more to allow for the town's peer reviewer, Jeff Walsh of Graves Engineering, to evaluate

the proposal. He presented his findings during the November meeting specifically addressing concerns about the proposed catch basin which has served as one of the most discussed elements of the project with Center Road residents taking issue with the impact the project will have on local drainage systems.

"The calculations were in order. They've got a number of analysis points that they've carried through since the first submittal as far as runoff from the property going in different directions," said Walsh. "I had no site plan type issues nor with the hydrology or the stormwater management aspects of the project."

Members of the Planning Board reiterated concerns from the October meeting about Nichols College's plan to tie into the town's drainage system, something

they deemed unique and out of the norm. However, Walsh indicated that this is not an abnormal approach. He clarified that the project has always included a tie-in to the Center Road drainage from its initial conception to the most recent iteration in October. He went on to explain that projects of this magnitude usually generate runoff unless they have optimal conditions and with the townhouses being on a hill runoff is to be expected. However, the project can't exceed certain peak runoffs which are calculated into how the site is constructed. Putting it simply, Walsh indicated that Nichols College had followed proper planning procedures and was fully able to tie into the town system.

"It's not the industry practice that if runoff is generated at the site that

Turn To **NICHOLS** page **A19**



Garrett Mann — Courtesy

BLOOD MOON

On the morning of Monday, Nov. 8 at 5 a.m., reader Garrett Mann, a resident of Webster, captured the last lunar eclipse we will witness for three years. The Moon in these pictures is a bright orange/red hue, thus why many call this a "Blood Moon." This phenomena occurs when the moon moves into earth's darkest shadow region - the umbra.

Upgrades, staffing highlight school district's five-year Tech Plan

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The Dudley Charlton Regional School District is looking ahead to the future of technology in the district with several required upgrades in the pipeline.

The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee hosted a brief update from District Tech Director Dan D'Arcangelo on Nov. 9 who provided an update on the district's Technology Plan looking ahead to 2027. The five-year plan includes proposed changes and upgrades to infrastructure, cybersecurity, hard-

ware, software, and the tech department in general as well as a potential spending plan to provide the necessary resources to keep the district up to date.

D'Arcangelo began by providing updates on cybersecurity and wireless connectivity, two of the earliest changes in the five-year plan.

"We've already finished upgrading the antivirus to a newer, next-gen antivirus which hopefully will protect the machines better than the old ones did. It offers advanced protection and response protocols that most of the insurance companies want organizations like

us to have," D'Arcangelo said.

He later discussed ongoing updates to the district's wireless connectivity infrastructure including upgrades to the district's network switches which assist in forwarding data packets between devices.

"We're in the process now of submitting an E-Rate category-two program for the networks switches," D'Arcangelo said. "We're looking to replace all 90 network switches next year. The current switches will be five to six years old by the time we replace them."

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Dudley TA touts energy efficiency initiatives

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – With energy costs slated to rise significantly as winter weather rolls in, Dudley town officials are making residents aware of efforts they have made to embrace low-cost energy while also seeking ways to provide breaks to the taxpayers of the town.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda utilized the duration of his report time during the Board of Selectmen's Nov. 7 meeting to discuss some initiatives the town has undertaken in recent years to reduce energy costs on the municipal level while also trying to spread the word about programs taxpayers can utilize to help reduce their own home energy bills.

On the municipal side, Ruda discussed Dudley's shift to solar power and embracing state negotiation programs to reduce the cost of energy consumption by town departments. Dudley's willingness to embrace

more efficient approaches to energy dates back to before Ruda's time as Administrator when he was a member of the Board of Selectmen along with current selectmen

John Marsi and Steven Sullivan. Ruda's predecessor Greg Balukonis helped spearhead the shift to LED street light-

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Courtesy

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL NAMES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as October Students of the Month at St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old (2-Day Program): Magdalena Kosiorek; Pre-K 3-year-old (5-Day Program): Julia Mazzone; Pre-K 4-year-old: Samantha Riley; Kindergarten: Michaela Chege; Grade 1: Quincy Middleton; Grade 2: Rylan Shemansky; Grade 3: Connor Kippax; Grade 4: Sophia Surowaniec; Grade 5: Alexis Archambault; Grade 6: Alan Rubin; Grade 7: Max Podgorny; Grade 8: Brett McCarthy. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!



DMS FIFTH GRADERS WELCOME LOCAL VETERANS

Courtesy

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, the Grade 5 team at Dudley Middle School welcomed 43 U.S. veterans in for a full morning event. The eighth grade chorus and band students performed for the veterans and fifth graders. Then students broke off into groups to interview individual veterans about their experiences. At the end, hosting students and veterans ate a homemade meal prepared by Jennifer Hegedus, the organizer of the event, and fifth grade U.S. History teacher. Students were active participants in their learning and showed their appreciation for the Veterans. Thank you to all veterans that participated and shared their stories!

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Incumbents dominate as Commonwealth goes blue in midterms

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Election Day didn't present too many competitive battles for Dudley, Oxford, and Webster in 2022, but the three towns still helped play a role in deciding the Commonwealth's political future helping choose a new Governor and the fate of several different questions posed on this year's ballot.

On the state level, the elections for the region presented few challengers to the established candidates. Worcester and Hampton District State Senator Ryan Fattman and State Representative for the 18th Worcester Joe McKenna, both Republicans, were uncontested in their

bids for reelection and thus easily returned to Boston. Republican Peter Durant, who represents the 6th Worcester District, was also uncontested in his reelection bid. Representative Paul Frost of the 7th Worcester District faced a perennial rematch against Terry Burke Dotson, the fifth time the two have challenged each other on Election Day, and once again Frost was victorious. Republican Lou Evangelidis was also reelected as Worcester County Sheriff, the only GOP candidate to win in the Sheriff races on Election Day. On the national level, incumbent congressmen also ruled the day in the Commonwealth as Democratic

Congressman Jim McGovern of District 2 fended off a challenge from Republican Jeffrey Sossa-Paquette and District 1 Congressman Richard Neal, also a Democrat, defeated Republican challenger Dean Martilli.

In the race for the next Governor of Massachusetts, Dudley, Oxford, and Webster were in the minority by the time the votes were counted. The state's most recent Attorney General Maura Healey dominated in a landslide victory over Republican challenger Geoff Diehl flipping the Governorship from Republican to Democrat with Gov. Charlie Baker not running for reelection. It's only the second time since the 1980s

that Massachusetts has seated a Democratic Governor. Healey's win is historic making her the first woman to lead the Commonwealth and one of the first openly lesbian Governors in the country. While most of the state supported Healey's election bid, Dudley, Oxford, and Webster all supported Diehl, a President Trump-backed candidate who only earned more than 60 percent of the votes from a handful of towns in the Commonwealth while Healey dominated in several parts of the state including the Boston area. Healey's win also gives Democrats complete control in the Senate, House, and the Governor's office in Massachusetts. Democrats also won many

of the other state offices up for grabs, most notably Andrea Joy Campbell became the state's new Attorney General succeeding Healey and William Francis Galvin was reelected Secretary of State.

Voters also had their say on four questions on the ballot, although Dudley voters also had a fifth question pertaining to the purchase of a new fire apparatus. Statewide, voters chose to support Questions 1, 2, and 4. Question 1 will install a new 4 percent tax levy on incomes above \$1 million to support education and transportation. Question 2 alters the regulations and reporting of dental insurers and Question 4 will allow people who cannot verify their citi-

zenship or immigration status to submit alternate forms of ID to apply for driver's licenses. Question 3, which would have changed the limits on the number of alcohol licenses retailers can hold among other alterations to current similar regulations, was the only question that failed.

Dudley voters had an additional question on the ballot, Question 5, which sought to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½ \$775,000 for a new fire engine to replace the aging Engine 3. The measure was approved at several town meetings in 2022 before being put on the November ballot and passed at the polls by a vote of 2,194 to 1,813.

Webster initiative gathers veterans for food, friendship, and a little magic

WEBSTER — A monthly gathering at the Church of Reconciliation in Webster is putting the words “thank you for your service” into critical action.

In September, Building Bridges Veterans Initiative began bringing veterans together with complimentary meals to share friendship and support, building a trusting community of support and healing.

The next monthly meal on Wednesday, Nov. 16 at noon is expected to even more veterans than the previous events.

“Building Bridges is how you get people together to help each other, to bring our country back together and bring our



souls back together too,” said Rev. David R. Stinson, Rear Admiral, US Navy, who serves veterans through Building Bridges in Keene, New Hampshire.

The Webster Building Bridges event was founded by locals Mark Rogers and Special Forces veteran Kevin Paicos.

“It was gratifying and inspiring being in a room with a group of high energy veterans enjoying each others company and good food,” said Rogers of the first Webster event.

Building Bridges Veterans Initiative was founded in 2015 by Rev. Christopher Carlisle from the Western Massachusetts Diocese. Carlisle's idea was simple: gather veterans and serve them a hot, complimentary meal and let them connect and create friendships. The unseen results is the powerfully positive impact these meals have on veterans' issues of isolation, anxiety, loneliness, PTSD, addiction and even suicide.

“It's a simple idea – get Veterans to sit down together without any other expectation but to meet, get some food and wait for conversation to begin,” said

Building Bridges advisor Ret. Lt. Colonel John Paradis. “What happens next is magic.”

Even through the COVID pandemic,

rate for Veterans in my district would be much higher,” said McGovern.

When it comes to veterans and the country's understanding of their sacrifice, Carlisle noted how Building Bridges is impacting this national issue. “We're changing the conversation,” said Carlisle.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$580,000, 3 Hickory Ln, Brummer-Blocher, Jennie B, to Barua, Suhas, and Barua, Leema.

\$550,000, 60 Bryn Mawr Ave, Benison, Timothy, and Benison, Tracey, to Doherty, Laura B, and Doherty, Brian.

\$385,000, 18 Hampton St, Lynch 4th, Jeremiah C, and Lynch, Molly C, to Hanley, Matthew.

\$359,000, 11 Oak St, Coffey, Laura B, and Doherty, Brian, to Conway, Nathan P and Richard, Victoria.

\$265,000, 10 Shore Dr, Partee, David, to Bouvier, Emily.

DUDLEY

\$649,900, 5 Intervale Cir, Dasilvas Blessings RET, and Dasilva, Sheyla, to Dutra, Thais G.

\$588,000, 10 Camelot Cir, Martin, Eric, to Kupstas, Katelyn, and Martinez, Kelvin.

\$460,000, 15 Eagle Dr, Puchala, Renata, and Puchala, Zbigniew, to Wilson, Lindsay B.

\$370,000, 8 George St, Pierce, Danele, and Pierce, Daniel E, to Lindberg, Nicholas, and Saad, Katherine.

\$355,000, 32 Brentwood Dr, Dupree Betty J Est, and Dupree, Stephen, to Graustein, Thomas C, and Broadard, Jeannette E.

\$345,000, 11 Fabyan Rd, Leblanc, Roger H, and Leblanc, Diana L, to Pierce, Daniel, and Pierce, Danele.

\$288,000, 15 Nelco Ave, Rousseau Jr, Joseph U, to Larson, Brett E.

OXFORD

\$675,000, 7 Old Merriam Rd, Morin RT 2018, and Elliott, Michelle T, to Chung, Young G, and Chung, Eunja.

\$429,900, 26 Pine Ridge Dr, Stone, Donna R, to Kauler, Kelly, and Mckillop, Matthew.

\$375,000, 35 Merriam District, Jennings, Dawn L, to Daniel J Brusger 2020 IRT, and Anderson, Deborah L.

\$350,000, 10 Federal Hill Rd, Perez, Rachel, and Perez, Joshua, to Jacobson-Lucas, Aaron, and Tarini, Jennifer.

\$344,900, 5 Harwood St, Larson, Cindy L, and Larson Jr, John A, to Lopez-Decalderon, Adela M.

\$250,000, 382 Main St, Perry LT, and Perry, Patricia A, to Konga, Regina.

\$73,000, 96 Millbury Rd, Hrg Development Corp, to Bahnassi, Amjad.

WEBSTER

\$690,000, 13 Bates Point Rd, Cain, Sandra L, and Brown, Robin C, to Granato, Kimberly, and Granato, Christopher.

\$535,000, 32 Colonial Rd, Stein, Gary, to Bloom, Kimberly.

\$445,000, 63 Old Worcester Rd, Sneade, Dennis R, to Antwi, Judith.

\$425,000, 6 Everett Ave, Mahoney, James D, and Mahoney, Meaghan L, to Salcedo, Raul R.

\$325,000, 49 Batten St, Piniarski, Lori, to Collazo, Nancy.

\$290,000, 109 Minebrook Rd, Smith, Phillip, and Smith, Ashley, to Boisvert, Ian, and Shepard, Geri Lynn.

\$225,000, 352 School St, Miller, Iwona, to Delacruz, Koroshe.

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WEBSTER — Students in the Advanced Manufacturing Pathway courses Introduction to Engineering Design and Principles of Engineering, as well as the Healthcare & Social Assistance Pathway course Principles of Biomedical Science at Bartlett High School have been working for the past five weeks on the STEM Week Challenge and preparing for the Showcase event that was held at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston on Friday, Oct. 21. Select students presented their materials to an authentic audience of their peers, teachers, and industry partners.

Students developed their knowledge of STEM career fields and the importance of networking. They sought connections to industry partners, aligning with the career field they were most interested in learning more about, through a combination of research and group collaborations. They developed a multimedia presentation along with a pitch to prepare and inspire people in Massachusetts to pursue the career they



Students attending STEM Week Challenge Showcase. Left to right: Logan Adams, Lillian Grenier, Wynter Cady, Hung Tran, Cayleb Mercure, Reece LeBeau, Evelina Bagdonaviciute, Joe Owusu, Kiara Alamo-Abad, Dylan Polen, Josh Lighten.

Jean Paul Celko, age 64, of Webster was arrested on Nov. 7 in connection

Donna M. Briggs, age 42, of Worcester was arrested on Nov. 8 for Disorderly Conduct and Disturbing the

A 25-year-old male from Webster whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Nov. 10 for

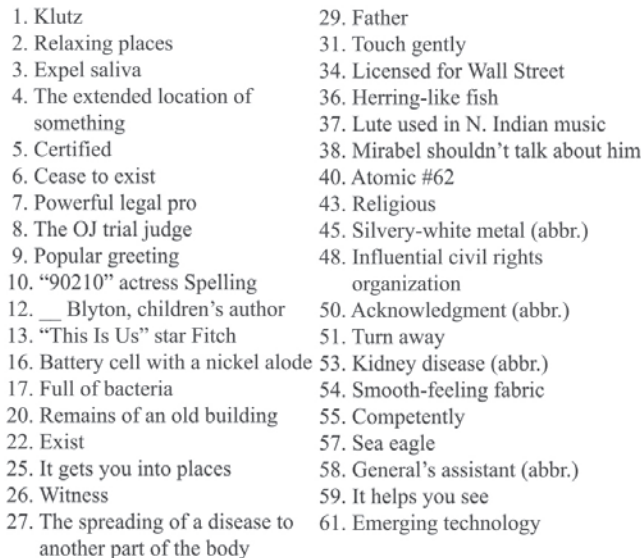
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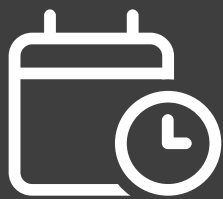
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Evelina Baddonavituite
Kiara Alamo-Abad
Team Robotics
Hung Tran
Reece LeBeau
Joe Owusu
Cayleb Mercure
Team Digital Arts & Design
Josh Lighten
Dylan Polen
Team Dentistry
Wynter Cady
Lilian Grenier
Logan Adams

Kimberly Dale Simmons, age 62, of Dudley was arrested on Nov. 12 in connection with a warrant.

Questions? Email info@gscwm.org or call 413-584-2602.

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[illegible]



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

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

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

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

MARK CHESTER ART EXHIBIT
November 1-November 30
Photographer Mark Chester will hold an exhibit of his works during the month of November.

Open to the public during regular library hours.

Sponsored by the Dudley Central Council.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS
Monday, November 14 10:00AM-11:00AM
It's never too early to spark our little children's interest in the fields of Science, Technology,

Engineering, and Math. It is during the early years that children start to wonder, ask, think, explore and discover things around them. With each class, the children will learn STEM concepts through hands-on activities, engaging stories, music and movement, challenges, and even simple experiments ideal for little hands. Each day will be a fun, learning experience for your little ones! STEM is Fun! This program is for children ages 3-5. Limit of 12 children, registration is required each week! Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership which is funded by the Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts by the Department of Early Education and Care.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT
Monday, November 14 6:00PM-7:45PM
We will have out a variety of games for families to play together. The games will change each month. Many of the games can be checked out for further play at home.

DEB'S SING AND SWING
Thursday, November 17 10:30AM-11:15AM
This is an interactive program featuring singing, guitar music,

dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

Children 12 and under need to be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

WIGGLES AND GIGGLES FOR LITTLES
Friday, November 18 11:30AM-12:00PM
Children, ages 6 months up to 24 months, with a parent/care-giver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories in this FREE series facilitated by music teacher Laine Hanlon! “Wiggles & Giggles” fosters physical, cognitive, social and emotional learning through music and motion. Siblings are welcome and must be supervised.

Registration is required at crawfordlibrary.org

This series is sponsored by the YMCA Family & Community Partnership (YFCP) and hosted by the Dudley Public Library. YFCP is a Massachusetts Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) grant funded by the Department of Early Education & Care and awarded to the YMCA of Central Massachusetts.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS
Monday, November 21 10:00AM-11:00AM

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Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website, or by reaching out to our Library Director,

Sondra Murphy, at smurphy@cwmmars.org.

Adult Programming FRIENDS FEATURED AUTHOR BOOK SALE – Ongoing

Featuring women of suspense and mystery: Mary Higgins Clark, Mary Janice Davidson, Anne Perry, and Elizabeth Peters, a grocery bag full of books just \$3.00 right now!

YOGA WITH JULIE – Saturdays in October and November, except 10/15 and 11/5 at 10:00AM

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

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

WHAT'S IT WORTH? ZOOM APPRAISALS WITH MIKE IVANKOVICH – November 17th 6:30-8:00PM

A u t h o r , Auctioneer, Appraiser and Radio show Host Mike Ivankovich will introduce you to “What Determines Value”...and reveal what your Antiques, Collectibles, and Personal Treasures are really worth today. Each attendee is invited to bring in 1-2 items for Mike to appraise. Time is limited, so attendees with items to appraise will need to sign up in advance. Zoom link will be provided, and participants can also bring their items to the library. Contact Randa at rcox@cwmmars.org for more information.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP – November 21st at 6:30PM

The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group will be meeting in person this month! The group meets at 6:30 pm and the meeting will take place in the Library's Community Room. New members are always welcome! Next month's book discussion will be on Monday, November 21st. The group will be discussing The Uninhabitable Earth by David Wallace-Wells. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to ehale@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

HOLIDAY WRAPPING PROGRAM – November 29th 5:00-8:00PM

Come and learn how to wrap your presents in style! Learn how to use ribbons, bows, and other adornments to spruce up your holiday presents! For all ages!

FALL CONCERT SERIES: DAN GABLE AND THE MOON MAIDS – December 8th 6:30-8:00PM

The music of the 1940s defined the entire era, and the sounds of the Big Bands and close harmony vocal groups dominated the air waves, dance halls, and record grooves. Now, that legendary sound is alive again with: THE MOON MAIDS, authentic 4-piece vocal group.

DUSTIN PARI – GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS PAST – December 15th 6:30-8:00PM

In this frightful, festive, and fun presentation Dustin Pari takes the cobwebs off of a classic tradition, the Victorian Christmas Ghost Story. Not only does he explain the history of this often-forgotten practice, but he shares a few timeless tales and even some real-life stories of holiday visits from the Ghosts of Christmas Past.

Children's and Young Adult Programming

MAKER MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30PM

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

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

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

W I G G L E S AND G I G G L E S (R E G I S T R A T I O N REQUIRED) – Wednesday Nov. 4th, 18th, Dec. 2nd, 9th, and 16th 10-11AM

Come sing, dance, and make music with Lainey Hanlon! Geared for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers, but all ages welcome! Go to our website to register!

STEM THURSDAYS – BREAD IN A BAG – November 10th 3:30-4:30PM

All you need to make bread is a bag and a few ingredients! Take your dough home, bake it, and enjoy! All ages. No Registration Required.

MUSIC TOGETHER – November 12th and 19th 11:15-12PM

Fun, fabulous, uplifting, magical early childhood music class! Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

STEM PASSPORT EVENT – November 18th 4:30-5:30PM

Join us for an Amazing Race Themed STEM event where participants must complete multiple missions to get their passports stamped.

WICKED FUN GAMES MOBILE ESCAPE ROOM FOR TEEN/TWEENS (R E G I S T R A T I O N REQUIRED) – December 1st 4-6pm

Join Wicked Fun Games in a space themed escape room! There is limited space to 10 people register by emailing rcox@cwmmars.org or calling the library!

E C O T R A I U M UNDERSTANDING WEATHER – December 2nd 3:30-5PM

Through fun and replicable demos and models, discover how temperature and pressure combine to create everything from wind and rain to hurricanes and tornadoes.

Thanksgiving Dinner

2022

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Includes: stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, peas, pearl onions, cranberry sauce, and 2 pies.

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Cinnamon Rolls \$15.99 doz. | Onion Rolls \$15.99 doz.

Pumpkin Bread \$15.99 doz.

All orders must be in by Nov. 21 & picked up on Nov. 24 between 11am & 2pm

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S T E M BEGINNINGS PRE-K CLASS – Wednesdays in December, starting December 7th – 10AM

With each class, the children will learn STEM concepts through hands-on activities, engaging stories, music and movement, challenges, and even simple experiments ideal for little hands. Each day will be a fun, learning experience for your little ones!

S T E M THURSDAYS – POLYGON STRUCTURE BUILDING – December 8th 3:30-4:30PM

Show us how tall you can build a 3-D polygon structure using marshmallows and toothpicks!

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

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

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events and our monthly lunch menu.

Come create an Evergreen Door Swag with Bemis Nursery! Sign up for Bemis Evergreen Door Swag Workshop to be held December 2nd at 9:30am. Cost: \$25.00. Please sign up at Senior Center front desk. Payment due at time of sign up. You must sign up by Friday, Nov. 18th.

The Webster Senior Center will be closing early at 12:30 pm on Wednesday, November 23rd (lunch will be served) and will be closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tues. 11/22 Roast Turkey, cornbread stuffing, butternut squash Wed. 11/23 Baked Potato, chili & cheese, broccoli Thurs. 11/24 and Friday, 11/25 Senior Center Closed for Thanksgiving holiday.

Free Blood Pressure screening will be held on Friday, December 9th at 10:30 am at the Senior Center. Sponsored by Summit Health.

Come celebrate the holiday season with us! The Webster Senior Center Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 12th and starts at 11:00 am. We'll be serving a buffet luncheon and entertainment will be provided by Tommy Rull. Tickets are \$10.00 and you must sign up by Monday, November 21st.

Are you interested in playing chess? We now have a chess club meeting on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm. All skill levels are welcomed!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Tax Aide, a partnership between the IRS and

BARTLETT HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WEBSTER — Bartlett High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

Grade 9
High Honors: Niel Dusziak
Honor: Kenneth Arpin, Tristan Booth, Nathan Cole, Aiden Cruz, Annalissa Krasnecky, Georgia LaPierre, Michael Pagan, Dominik Partridge, Eryk Piwowarczyk

Grade 10
High Honor: Sydney Fuller, Ayden Heenan, Lexani Lewis, Adam Phillips, Gabriella Troy, Adam Urato
Honor: Jibril Abshir, Savannah Bjork, Owen Boisseau, Gracien Boucher, Wynter Cady, Lillyanna Cannon, Jayden Casey, Aiden Castillo, Ayden Do, Nevaeh Espola, Taryn Gerber, Justin Ilarraza, Ess Keegan, Evangeline Mayotte, Cayleb Mercure, Ashley Millette, Ian Mulbah, Leximee Phanthavong, Isabel Richards, Isabelle Rodrigues, Rafael Trivino, Odelis Valentin, Dakota Vaudreuil, Maya Wetherbee, Harry Zhu

Grade 11
High Honor: Peter Brandao, Peter Lavache, Angel Marin-Caceres, Hung Tran
Honor: Kwadwo, Agyemang, Nazaiah Anokye, Muhammad Aslam, Ayden Carlson, Leidy Cruz Guzman, Reece LeBeau, Kaua Lima, Janessa Macario, Ryan McCormack, Eric Manilut, Haideeliz Martinez, Halle McClain, Radames Rodriguez, Keneth Santna Arroyo, Madisynn Segarra, Donovan Williams, Dezmin Zona

Grade 12
High Honor: Shelly Condon, Nyia Gonzalez, Veronica Graves, Kyliana Hernandez, Anousone Manilut, Catherine McIntyre, Erikas Naujokas, Camryn Phillips, Lily Picchioni, Gabrielle Piehler, Daria Piwowarczyk, Jean Platel, Tiffany Salazar Vega, Victoria Spitz
Honor: Elisabeth Adams, Maxine Adu-Boahen Jones, Yunge Pharell Manasse Assizo, Shawn Beicke, Faith Blaisdell, Jacob Burnside, Wilenny Duran, Josiah Espino, Isabel Figueroa, Matthew Forgotch, Osvaldo Gonzalez, Kyle Langevin, Jessiaha Medina, Ethan Minarik, Dakota Moore, Liantete Pantoja, Yostina Rezk, Meghan Rice, Angel Rodriguez Monserrate, Yanellis Sanchez, Megan Tucker, Hannah Walker, Frederica Yanna

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the AARP Foundation, need volunteer counselors to help low- and moderate-income persons in your community prepare their Federal and Massachusetts income taxes. Volunteers work 4-6 hours per week during tax preparation season. Training for volunteer preparers starts in November, with most of the training online. Internet access and basic computer skills are necessary. For an application visit www.aarp.org/volunteer/programs/taxaide

The Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center is closed on Mondays. Open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Walk-ins Are Welcome on Wednesdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule your appointment!

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

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

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Better yet, sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

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

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

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

Open Enrollment ends December 7th. A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center to assist you. By appointment only. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.

Trip 1: Christmas with Paul Anka Holiday Tribute, Wednesday, December 7th. Trip price of \$99.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax & gratuity, and show ticket. Trip 2: An American Bandstand New Year's Eve Day, Saturday, December 31st. Features the Tom LaMark Orchestra. Trip price of \$110.00 includes luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, entertainment, party favors and champagne toast. Our trips are quickly selling out so don't wait to reserve your seat! Trip prices do not include bus driver gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office House Numbering Program will

create a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you. (508) 949-3845.

Senior SAFE is a program that supports fire and life safety education for seniors. The Webster Fire Dept. will do

a home visit to ensure that you have the correct smoke and CO2 alarms and that they are working properly, at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

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

2050 Connections – What Are Your Transportation Goals for Southern Worcester County?

The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is working on their Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), called 2050 Connections. This plan is updated every four years to reflect the transportation priorities of residents of Central Massachusetts. As part of the LRTP effort, a financial plan is developed which includes the major infrastructure projects that are candidates for federal funds.

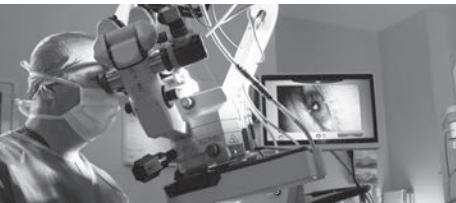
August, September, and October were busy months for CMRPC staff. Between outreach events, regional infrastructure meetings and other methods of targeted outreach, the public participation portion of the LRTP has been quite a success. Nonetheless, we are still hoping to see survey responses roll in throughout the beginning of December. Our 2050 Connections survey can be found on the 2050 Connections Hubsite, <http://www.cmrpc.org/2050Connections>, under the “participate” tab, or on the CMRPC website under the “transportation” tab.

As a part of the public outreach portion of this LRTP, CMRPC staff tabled at many public events. One of the most recurring conversations concerning transportation that we had at these outreach events involved public transit. Regarding public transit, we recognize all the needs of older adults, young children and those living with disabilities and strive to represent them in our plan. CMRPC staff are constantly looking for ways in which we can help our residents, whether that is helping towns find the grants they need for infrastructure improvement or amplifying the voices of those who experience transportation related stressors. If you or someone you know would like to share their opinions and goals related to transportation in the region, we strongly recommend filling out our online survey or reaching out via Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

Moreover, CMRPC staff have been working together to meet with each town to discuss all topics related to infrastructure that could be incorporated into our LRTP. Specifically, we have met with town officials and infrastructure staff to learn more about their thoughts and experiences with transportation and related topics. Such topics include, but are not limited to, bus systems and bus stops, sidewalks and other pedestrian infrastructure, the East-West rail project, and electric vehicle charging stations. To learn more about these Sub-Regional Infrastructure Summits, please read the CMRPC October newsletter on the CMRPC website under “about us; CMRPC newsletters”.

Please consider filling out our survey to tell us what your transportation priorities are and how you envision the future of this region!

Please visit our Hubsite [CMRPC.org/2050Connections](http://www.cmrpc.org/2050Connections) for more information on the development of the LRTP. Additionally, please be sure to fill out the 2050 Connections survey on the Hubsite. Any other questions, please email gjarvis@cmrpc.org to speak with CMRPC's Public Outreach Coordinator.



James Dean, MD
Chief of Ophthalmology


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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Put a little love in your heart

Alongside the bright red ribbons, boughs of holly, and countless images of Jolly old Saint Nick that seem to greet us everywhere we go during the holidays, those of you who have braved the malls or, better yet, browsed the shops in your own community so far this season have likely encountered another holiday icon in your travels — the dedicated volunteers who bundle up and brave the chilly air to collect donations for organizations such as the Salvation Army.

Always seeming to be ready with a cheerful greeting and a warm smile for the crowds of shoppers who file past them every day, these hearty souls serve as an important reminder to all of us that now, more than any other time of year, is the time to turn our thoughts toward the less fortunate among us ... and that sometimes, the greatest gift of all can be a helping hand in a time of need.

With the cloud of economic uncertainty leading many of us to tighten our belts more than usual when it comes to our holiday shopping this year, and the stress of dealing with family politics or traveling away from home for the holidays occupying our thoughts, it can be all too easy to forget that times are that much tougher for those who have been victimized by the ravages of COVID and its aftermath. Right here in our own backyard, there are a great many families who have fallen on hard times, often through no fault of their own, and have nowhere left to turn for help but the generosity of strangers.

Fortunately, there are no shortage of charitable organizations scattered throughout the area that are prepared to meet the growing demand for assistance, but only with the support of their respective communities. So, whether it be through a donation of canned goods to your local food pantry; a donation of used clothing to your local thrift shop; or simply by slipping a handful of bills into one of the bright red Salvation Army coffers manned by those spirited, bell ringing volunteers, we encourage our readers to think of their fellow man and put a little love in their hearts, as Jackie DeShannon once sang, and remind themselves of the true meaning of the season by offering a helping hand to their neighbors in need.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

THE DEADLINE to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next week's newspaper is Friday at noon. **SEND ALL ITEMS** to Editor Brendan Berube at [The Webster Times](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news) — news@stonebridgepress.news

Gratitude begets generosity

Gratitude begets generosity. Authentic gratitude brings about the act of living and giving generously. When we learn to see God's blessings all around us, in every circumstance, in every person, we develop a spirit of thanksgiving and this attitude of gratitude leads us to joyous generosity. We don't grudgingly give because we have to, as a duty, we discover the joy of giving as a natural response to countless blessings we have received.

As the Psalmist proclaims, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all that He has done for me." Sixty times throughout the psalms we hear prayers of thanksgiving and joyous praise in response to God's continual blessings in our lives. It is natural, a part of who we are, to burst forth with thanksgiving when are hearts are overflowing with God's Spirit.

Saint Paul teaches us to "Rejoice in the Lord always... give thanks in all circumstances." The Apostle wrote to the Christians in Philippi while he himself was suffering in prison and the recipients of his letter faced uncertain persecution, and yet, he still encouraged them to "pray and supplicate with thanksgiving" and "to be content in any and all circumstances." No matter what our circumstances, when we have the eyes to see and a heart filled with God's Spirit, we will find countless reasons to give thanks and rejoice in the Lord.

We need to reflect thoughtfully whenever we are unwilling or even forgetful in thanking others, and in thanking God. Our inability to express gratitude reveals a spiritual illness, a heart that is too proud to realize the constant blessings that we receive from God. St. Mark the Ascetic reminds us to, "be careful because forgetfulness or laziness makes us grow unmindful of the many and great blessings God gives us, and we can pass the rest of our lives uselessly and ungratefully."

Gratitude begets generosity. Remember the "Abrahamic blessing" - We are blessed so that we bless others! Think of all the blessings you have had in your life from your childhood to this day, and with gratitude thank God! Then, remember that our Lord doesn't bless us so that we hold on to these blessings for ourselves. He doesn't give us blessings to turn inward and act in a self-centered manner; holding on to the blessings for ourselves and maybe for our loved ones. He blesses us so that we can act as His ambassadors in sharing these blessings with others.

Cultivating this attitude of gratitude and realizing that authentic gratitude brings about this joyous spirit of giving helps us better understand Christ's words "It is more blessed to give than to receive." We discover an incredible blessing when we practice joyous generosity.

Saint John Chrysostom highlights this: "Happiness can only be achieved by transforming greed into gratitude... it is outrageous that when we enjoy God's blessings every single day, we do not acknowledge the favor with so much as a word of thanks. Expressing gratitude confers great benefit on us. God does not need anything of ours, but we stand in need of all things from Him... Remember, the rich person is not the one who has much but the one who gives much, for what we give away we keep for eternity."

Gratitude begets generosity. Gratitude that leads to generosity, however, demands serious spiritual discipline. The holy triad of spiritual disciplines that Jesus taught in His famous Sermon on the Mount were Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Everyone knows how difficult it is to maintain a serious Prayer



BEYOND THE PEWS

• • • • •

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

Rule, one where we are constantly praying and connecting with God. This doesn't come naturally but take earnest, conscious effort. The same can be said for fasting. If we try to fast every Wednesday and Friday, as well as during the four Fasting seasons throughout the church year, it takes serious determination along with God's grace.

Almsgiving, or joyous generosity - where we act as good stewards in offering our money to the Church and its ministries, as well as to charities and to people in need - takes even more effort and determination than keeping a prayer life and a rule of fasting. Why? Because as Jesus said, "Where our treasure is, our heart will be." For too many people, their treasure is their money and possessions, and they find great difficulty in parting with this.

This is why God gave the teaching of the Tithe to the Israelites in the Law of Moses. The Tithe is offering the first fruits of all you have, the first 10% of your blessings back to God. The Prophet Micah even criticizes the people of God for stealing when they hold back their 10% from God - "You have cheated me! You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me... Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do, I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won't have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!"

We must realize that all we have - our money, our possessions, our family life, our opportunities, our health, the treasure of our faith - is a gift from God. We may have worked hard for it, but who gave us the opportunities, health, brains, and everything else we have to achieve what we have? With these many blessings, take a moment to reflect how you have blessed others. What have you given to God and His Church this year? What have you given to God through other charities? How have you helped people in need with your finances?

Gratitude begets generosity.

The spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, remind us that "Gratitude goes beyond the "mine" and "thine" and claims the truth that all of life is a pure gift. In the past I always thought of gratitude as a spontaneous response to the awareness of gifts received, but now I realize that the discipline of gratitude is the explicit effort to acknowledge that all I am and have as a gift of love, a gift to be celebrated with joy... This spiritual discipline also means I learn to be grateful for the good as well as the bad, the moments of joy as well as the moments of sorrow, the successes as well as the failures, the rewards as well as the rejections - that requires hard spiritual work. Still, we are only truly grateful people when we can say thank you to all that has brought us to the present moment."

Always remember that "if God does not for a moment tire of giving us good things," as St. Nikolaj Velimirovic says, "how can we tire of thanking Him for these good things and sharing them with others?"

Gratitude begets generosity. Gratitude brings about the act of living and giving generously. When we learn to see God's blessings all around us, in every circumstance, in every person, we develop a spirit of thanksgiving and this attitude of gratitude leads us to joyous generosity. We don't grudgingly give because we have to, as a duty, we discover the joy of giving as a natural response to countless blessings we have received!

Be Joyfully Aware

I've got something that you need to know!
It's really great news if you don't say 'no!'

Be aware - He's here, He's all around!
In every city and in every town!

He's searching & seeking to make you brand new!
His name is Jesus and He really loves you!

I am so excited - I can't believe my eyes!
It's been a secret - now it will be a surprise!


It's amazing, and awesome, if He's there in your heart!
Say 'yes' when He calls you - that's how it will start!

Keep looking up, He's on His way!
Who knows when - it could be today!

He's inviting you - don't just stand there and wonder!
Say 'yes' to Him - before you hear His thunder!

SJ Shepherd
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How to know if you can turn right on red



CHIEF'S CORNER

STEVE WOJNAR

By Chief Steven J. Wojnar
Dudley Police Department

"Right turns on red" at traffic signals have been the topic of recent questions. There have been some cities considering banning these turns at all traffic signaled intersections. By state law, these turns are allowed, unless there is a sign prohibiting it. The person wondered how a driver, who happens to travel in a community who may enact this ban, will know if these turns are allowed?

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 89 Section 8 is the law allowing a right turn, or a left turn in the case of a one-way street, at a red traffic signal. Two very important provisions must be observed prior to this movement. First, the vehicle must come to a full and complete stop prior to the crosswalk or in the location where stopping is intended at the intersection. An example of this can be the stop line. Second, the driver preparing to turn, must yield the right of way to any vehicles or pedestrians traveling through the intersection as directed by the signals. If a driver feels it is unsafe to turn, they have the obligation to wait until such time as it is safe to do so. Should an accident occur, it will most often be the fault of the person making this turn on red.

In those intersections, where there is a sign prohibiting these turns, there is generally a good reason. At any intersection where signals are in place, studies have been conducted on the traffic conditions in that area. These will include vehicular and pedestrian volume, speeds, and crash data. Often, drivers may not pay attention to traffic or people approaching from multiple directions. Any city or town that prohibits these must receive authorization from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, if such permission is required, and signs, prohibiting the turns, will need to be placed at all locations. This way the signs are posted lawfully, and all drivers will have sufficient, and standardized, notice on how to proceed.

It is most important to remember traffic signals at busy intersections are in place due to the heavy vehicle and/or pedestrian traffic. When drivers disregard these signals, make prohibited turns, or fail to pay added attention, problems can occur. There are many dangers which can approach from seemingly all directions. The rush to save a few seconds of travel time can result in a crash or injuries.

Our department will once again be collecting Christmas gift donations for local families in need. New and unwrapped toys and clothing can be brought to the Dudley Police Department at 71 West Main St. Monetary donations as well as gift cards are also accepted. Anything remaining is distributed locally (at places such as Webster / Dudley Food Share) for families on our two towns. Checks should be made payable to the "Dudley Police Association" with a special note for the Holiday Drive. Officers Keith Remillard and Luis Pacheco are leading this year's drive and they can be contacted at the station if people have questions or require more information. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. There are definite needs in our area for these items and our Department thanks everyone in advance for their continued generosity.

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

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

An exciting time for deer hunters

I need to apologize to my readers for the short column last week. It seems as though someone hacked into my computer, and it was almost impossible to send any e-mail including my column. The hacker managed to send all types of e-mail to people on my contact list. I had online computer repair straighten out my computer, and it is nearly back to normal now! Darn Whackos!

This past week proved to be exciting for sportsmen that did any form of hunting or fishing. Now it is almost time for the shotgun deer season to start, Nov. 28 to be exact. Reports from archers that they are encountering many deer while sitting in their tree stand or ground blind is good news. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate, and provide some great hunting opportunities for all hunters. Because of the lack of acorns in most of the state, deer are sustaining their appetite by eating green grass, which is plentiful this year, and should keep them well fed until deep snow covers it all up. They will also forage on tree branches, and young fruit trees, and if things get really bad, they will eat hemlocks, which give them very little nutrition. That is when many deer

die! It is not a pretty sight!

A bit more on the pheasant hunting situation that arose a couple of weeks ago at the Westhill dam in Uxbridge and Northbridge. As I stated about the clearing of most prime habitat by the Corps of Engineers at the main field, which is leased by Mass. Fish & Wildlife. There sure had to be no communication by the Corps to MFW about their plans to do some work on the site.

The total destruction of the main field, not only destroyed habitat for pheasant but also was used by deer, wild turkey, and many non-game species of birds, snakes, etc. that was essential to wildlife overall. This same thing happened more than 20 years ago, and sportsmen came to the rescue by acquiring fertilizer from the state, and the help of the late Dan Cahill of Mendon with his tractor to spread the fertilizer. It took a couple of years to regrow the destroyed habitat, but it did come back. Why did this



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

happen again?

Unfortunately, an incident happened this year at the TriRiver area causing the division to take action, and to stop stocking birds at the site. It only took one incident by an irresponsible hunter to cause the closing of the area, at least for this year. The state will hopefully consider the stocking of the area next year.

Hopefully, ice fishing is not too far away, but if this warm weather persists, it could be another poor year for ice fishing anglers. Ice fishing can be enjoyed by the entire family, and often have sportsmen bringing along numerous types of wild game to cook and feed them. If you are lucky enough to be there when the food is ready, most if not all anglers will offer some to other anglers on the ice. It also gives the sportsmen a chance to tell stories about their hunting and fishing adventure of years past. Most stretch the stories a bit. Like the old saying goes, all fishermen are liars except you and me! I am not too sure about you! There is no harm done



as most stories are basically true! They always are more interesting to hear year after year, with a bit more fabrication.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Turkey Tips and Tricks

Few holidays compare to a traditional Thanksgiving celebration. Unlike Christmas, which can be a rush of excitement and energy, Thanksgiving provides extended families the perfect pause to relax and simply enjoy each other's company.

Whether you're cooking at home or traveling this Thanksgiving, the highlight of an annual feast is undoubtedly the turkey, served up as a crowning centerpiece of the both the table and the holiday. Read on for some kitchen tips from experts (some old, some new) sure to help you achieve a Norman Rockwell-worthy Thanksgiving celebration.

**

Not sure how big a turkey to buy? A general rule of thumb is to allow one pound of uncooked turkey per person from an 8 to 12 pound turkey. Larger birds have a larger proportion of meat to bones, so three quarters of a pound per person should serve well when purchasing heavier birds.

Want a more precise estimate? Butterball.

com offers a "Plan Perfect Portions and Calculators and Conversions" on its website that calculates the exact amount of turkey and stuffing per person, as well as how long it will take to thaw a frozen turkey.

Other tools on the website include a timing checklist, temperature conversions and a weights and measures conversion.

**

If you buy a frozen turkey, it is important to thaw it safely. The National Turkey Federation offers the following guidelines to properly defrosting frozen turkeys: Like all protein foods, should be thawed in the refrigerator, never at room temperature. When foods are thawed at room temperature, surface bacteria can rapidly multiply to dangerous levels at temperatures of 40 degrees F and above. For safety and superior quality, leave turkey in the original packaging and place in a shallow pan. Thaw, in the refrigerator, using the simple formula: whole turkeys



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

thaw at a rate of four to five pounds per 24 hours. Example: A 15-pound frozen bird will take three to four full days to thaw in the refrigerator. To speed thawing, keep turkey in the original tightly sealed bag and place in a clean and sanitized sink or pan. Submerge in cold water and change the cold water every 30 minutes. The turkey will take about 30 minutes per pound to thaw. Refrigerate (at 40 degrees F or below) or cook the turkey when it is thawed. Do not refreeze uncooked, defrosted turkey.

**

Stuffing is a delicious requisite for most Thanksgiving meals, but if you plan on stuffing the turkey it's important not to do so until just before it is placed in the oven for roasting. If preparing the stuffing ahead of

time, wet and dry ingredients should be refrigerated separately and combined right before stuffing the turkey. The turkey should be stuffed loosely, with about three quarters of a cup of stuffing per pound of turkey. It's also important to test the internal temperature of the stuffing as well as the turkey. The internal temperature in the center of the stuffing should register 160 to 165 degrees F.

**

Did you know even a pre-basted bird can benefit from hand basting? Basting gives your bird color, crisps the skin and helps hold in juices. Rub the bird with a few tablespoons of softened butter and pour two cups of turkey broth, chicken broth or water into your roasting pan. Baste every half hour or so. And be sure to baste quickly, because the oven temperature will reduce every time you open the oven door.

**

Love a turkey with crispy skin? The secret is to blot all excess moisture out with paper towels before seasoning

and cooking. Otherwise, steam from the moisture creates steam and prevents it crisping up.

**

Deep frying a holiday turkey is a popular tradition. Experts say turkeys from about eight to 12 pounds are the perfect size for deep frying. And keep in mind the oil you use should have a high smoke toleration. Only oils that have high smoke points should be used. According to the National Turkey Federation, peanut, refined canola, corn oil, rice oil and peanut oil are all good candidates.

**

Here's a tip that's appeared in this column before, but it's worth repeating: Experts claim there are three simple secrets to perfect homemade gravy: 1. Cook the flour in the fat thoroughly before adding liquid to avoid a starchy flavor; 2. Avoid lumps by stirring in the flour with a wire whisk; and 3. The key to best flavor is salting it right.

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Auction, antiques, and collectibles news



In a followup to the local news story I wrote about in my last column, I'm excited to announce that the auction of Worcester, New England and other historical memorabilia starts this week. The collection belonged to the Rotman family of Worcester. While the Rotman name is most well-known for their furniture store, the family ran a highly successful sports card and memorabilia business. They also held telephone bid auctions during the 1980s and 1990s. We will be offering nearly 700 lots of items they collected. The Rotman's collection online auction will begin this week, with bidding closing on Wednesday, Dec. 7. There will be a preview at Rotman's Furniture on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4. Pickup for local bidders will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10 and Sunday, Dec. 11.



As for other antique news, I shared in a September column that Paul Allen's art collection could bring over \$1 billion at auction. The auction took place earlier this month and far exceeded that estimate, topping \$1.6 billion. CNBC reported that five paintings sold for over \$100 million. The top selling painting was Georges Seurat's "Les Poseuses, Ensemble," which brought \$149.2 million.

In more noteworthy auction news, CBS News reported that the only known poster for the 1959 Moorhead, Minnesota Buddy Holly concert recent-

Valens and the "Big Bopper" (J.P. Richardson) when their plane tragically crashed, killing Holly, Valens, Richardson and everyone on board. The poster had fallen from a telephone pole soon after the show was cancelled and was picked up by a maintenance man who placed it in a closet. After being forgotten for about 50 years, the poster sold for \$447,000 earlier this month, setting a record for a rock and roll poster. The previous record was for a poster from the Beatles 1966 concert at Shea Stadium.

CoinNews.net reports that Mike Coltrane's estate collection recently went on the auction block. Many of the coins were minted soon after our country's independence. A 1792 President Washington cent went for \$136,000. A 1794 half cent that, according to coinnews.net, was the second or finest example known, brought \$168,000. A half cent from 1793 sold for \$180,000.



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA

A "New Jersey Copper" was the top seller at \$192,000. The entire collection sold for \$2.4 million. That's certainly more than just pocket change.

It was nice seeing many of you at our recent Townsend Historical Society, Worcester Senior Center and Leicester Historical Society appraisal events. We had two online auctions close this week and we have two more sales scheduled for this year. As mentioned, the Rotman's online auction begins this week. We will also have a large auction of art, historical memorabilia and other antiques and collectibles beginning in two weeks. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Please contact us at www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

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OBITUARIES

Muriel C. Schmidt, 93



WEBSTER – Muriel C. (St. Germain) Schmidt, 93, died Monday, October 31, 2022. Her husband of 48 years, Roger Schmidt, died in 1998. She leaves her daughters, Jane E. Neslusan, and husband Dennis of Webster; and Ann L. Schmidt DVM and husband Richard DeWolf of Dudley; grandchildren, Daniel Neslusan of Brookline, NH, Sarah Neslusan Reynolds and her husband Austin of Los Angeles, CA and Eli DeWolf of Dudley; a sister, Lorraine Parmentier of CT; a brother-in-law, Alwin Schmidt of Sturbridge; her dearest friend, Johanna Neslusan of Webster; many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her granddaughter Marilee DeWolf and by her siblings Clarence, Estelle, William, Wilfred, Jeanette, Virginia, Roland, Eleanor and Lucille. She was born in Webster on November 23, 1928 the youngest of the 11 children of Henri and Palmena (Girard) St. Germain. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1947 where she was the accompanist for the Bartlett High School Glee Club. Muriel first worked as a secretary at the American Optical Company in Southbridge, and then as a teller for the First National Bank in Webster before leaving to raise her

family. With her husband Roger she owned Schmidt Equipment in North Oxford, retiring in 1998. She was a faithful attendee of the First Congregational Church of Dudley and a member of the L'Apres-Midi Club, The American Morgan Horse Association and the Carriage Association of America. Muriel deeply loved her family, home-stead and her many animals. She was a talented seamstress, crafter, cook and pianist, skills which brought enchantment to every holiday. She shared her husband's passions for sailing on Webster Lake and for raising their Morgan horses. She and Roger delighted the neighborhood children when they drove their antique carriages, hitched to their matched pair of Morgans. In her later years she was an avid walker, famous for her six mile daily treks, and at the age of 90 she danced the night away at her granddaughter's wedding. A memorial service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, November 16, in the First Congregational Church of Dudley, 135 Center Road, Dudley, with Pastor John R. White officiating. Burial will be private in Lakeside Cemetery. There are no calling hours. Donations in her memory may be made to the First Congregational Church of Dudley, Attn: Window Restoration Fund, 135 Center Road, Dudley, MA 01571. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster.

Nancy M. Dauksz, 80



OXFORD - Nancy M. (Clarke) Dauksz, 80, of Fort Hill Road, passed away Thursday, November 10, 2022, with her loving family by her side. Born at home in Manchaug, MA, on November 9, 1942, she was the daughter of the late George D. and Ruth E. (Farrar) Clarke. Nancy worked hard to get her GED and later attended secretarial school while raising five children. She then worked as a switchboard operator at Liberty Mutual in Worcester and Westborough for 19 years, retiring in 2005. Nancy was a loving matriarch known for her independence and ability to persevere — and smile — through life's greatest challenges. Her favorite activities always included her family, whether she was visiting Scarborough Beach and Myrtle Beach with her sisters, or tending to her yard and growing fresh blueberries to use in pancakes for her grandchildren. She famously took pictures at every family gathering, eager to preserve happy memories from holidays and apple picking trips at Tougas Farms. Nancy kept her purse impressively packed with snacks for her family, right next to her treasured Salada tea bags. She was especially proud of her children, who make a

positive difference in the world through their respective careers. She is predeceased by her first husband, Gerald Siplas of Oxford, who died in 1962; her second husband, Charles Dauksz of Webster who died in 1985; and her sister Cheryl Stone of Oxford, who died in 2004. She is survived by her five children, Gerald Siplas and his wife Deborah of Worcester; Thomas Siplas and his wife Melody of Oxford; Michael Siplas of Fitchburg; Dr. Cathrine Kaplan and her husband Michael of South Easton, and Matthew Dauksz and his wife Cori of Shrewsbury; a brother, George D. Clarke Jr. of Putnam, CT; three sisters, Judith Caissie of Oxford, Barbara Jakubowski of Dudley, and Martha Clarke of Charlton; as well as seven grandchildren, two-great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial will follow at Notre Dame Cemetery in Worcester. Calling hours are Saturday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the funeral home, prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Beacon Hospice, 36 William St., Leominster, MA 01453, or to Boys Town, 14100 Crawford St., Boys Town, NE 68010, or to a veteran's organization of your choice.

Stephen P. Engelhard, Jr., 77

OXFORD – Stephen P. Engelhard, Jr., 77, of Joe Jenny Road, died Sunday, November 6, 2022, in his home after a long illness. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Anne M. (Decoteau) Engelhard of Oxford; three children, Christin, Heather, and Jamie; his brother, Jeffrey Engelhard of New Jersey; his sister, Beverly Mendes and her husband Fred of Boxford; and several grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. He was born in Salem, son of the late Stephen P. and Dorothy M. (Dubois) Engelhard, and lived in Oxford since 1989. Mr. Engelhard worked in the shipping and receiving department at Worcester Tool and Stamping in Leicester for 22 years, retiring in 2007. Previously, he

worked as a D.J. under the name “D.J. Grasshopper”, and delivered newspapers with his father in Peabody when he was young. He was a member of St. Roch's Church in Oxford and assisted with the annual church barbeque for 5 years. Mr. Engelhard was a member of the Oxford Cable Committee for 10 years. He was a fan of Elvis and loved country music. A funeral Mass was held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at St. Roch's Church, 332 Main St., Oxford. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to a charity of your choice. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements.

Theresa Veronica Strzelewicz, 93



WEBSTER – Theresa Veronica (Biadasz) Strzelewicz, 93, passed away on Sunday, November 6, 2022 with family by her side. Theresa leaves behind four children: Carol McDonald of Douglas, Michael Strzelewicz and his wife Gina of Jupiter, Florida, Patricia Mancini and her husband Justin of Palmer, and Jane Hanson and her husband Kurt of Franklin; 14 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind her dear friend Barbara. Theresa was predeceased by her husband, Anthony J. Strzelewicz, in 1974. She was also predeceased by her siblings, Paul Biadasz and Rose Jarzabski. Born in Webster on January 5, 1929, Theresa was the daughter of Stanley and Mary (Zurawka) Biadasz and a lifelong resident of Webster. She was a graduate of Bartlett High School in 1946 and of Forsyth School for Dental Hygiene in Boston in 1948. Theresa worked as a dental

hygienist in private dental offices and for 33 years in public and parochial schools in Putnam and Thompson, Connecticut. She retired in 1994. Theresa was a member of the Massachusetts Dental Hygienist Association and a member of Webster Emblem Club. She was a faith-filled, lifelong member of Saint Joseph Church in Webster. Theresa cherished spending time with her children and their spouses, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She was an avid traveler and especially enjoyed going on cruises. She also enjoyed reading, crocheting, and puzzles. A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Monday, November 14th at 11:00 AM at Saint Joseph Church, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster. Visitation hours were held from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Sunday, November 13th at Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster. Burial will be private on a future date. Donations may be made in Theresa's name to the Felician Sisters, 1315 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT 06082. www.websterfunerals.com

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

Disgust can be a motivator

We've all been disgusted by something in our lives.

Disgust is a feeling of aversion a person has towards something offensive. It can take the form of a mild dislike or intense loathing. Disgust has the effect of causing a person to physically turn away from what is disgusting to them.

If you saw hundreds of maggots worming through your food, you'd feel revolted enough to throw it away and maybe lose your appetite for a while! If you saw someone do something evil, you'd be upset enough to tell someone about it and call the police. If you hear someone say something that offends you, you may feel unpleasant enough never to see them again.

What happens when you've had too much alcohol and have a terrible hangover that ruins your day? Are you disgusted enough to quit and maybe go to rehab?

What happens when you've been eating so much that you're far from achieving your weight loss goals? Does it disgust you enough to get in the gym and watch what you eat?

Do you feel disgusted when you lash out at someone and overreact to something they did or said?

Sometimes, change requires you to be disgusted. Self-disgust with your life, situation, relationship, addiction, and finances can catalyze change.

Jim Rohn tells the story of a married woman whose husband controlled all the money. She'd have to ask him first whenever she wanted to buy something. Every time she did, he acted annoyed and said, "what for?" She felt so low, so disgusted; she said to herself, "Never again!"

She picked up a few books and began to study. She had the plan to start a successful business. After much hard work and probably a little luck, she became vice president of a very successful company. She never asked her husband for money ever again. The tables had turned, and I'm sure her husband had to ask her for money from time to time!

POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

My father struggled with weight gain his whole life. One day as he visited with the doctor for a checkup, the doctor very seriously said, "do you want to end up like your father and die of a heart attack at 57?" My father replied, "no!" And the doctor said, "then you need to make a change."

He came home absolutely sick with himself. He didn't want to be overweight any longer but knew all too well that he could not stay disciplined enough to remain on any one diet forever. Determined to make a change, he scheduled a visit with another doctor to get bariatric surgery.

In the face of all the difficulties involved with

bariatric surgery, he optimistically decided to change the course of his life. The revulsion he felt awakened a determination that helped him make a lifelong change. Not only did he lose the weight and keep it off, but he may also have extended his life by many years.

A Philadelphia lady had struggled with alcoholism her whole life. She was able to quit periodically, but she always fell off the wagon eventually. When the pandemic hit, she slipped up and started stealing her daughter's alcohol. Her daughter confronted her about it; she was so upset with herself that she entered rehab, where she learned to live without substances. A great change!

One lady was dumped and cheated on by her

boyfriend. Her depression and heartbreak were almost too much to bear. She saw the signs and knew better but chose to ignore them. She was so sick with herself for not speaking up that she made a significant change! Initially, she sought therapy, and as she began unraveling her life, she could identify other things that bothered her and made changes accordingly.

Sometimes, you have to hit a new low to feel strong enough to make a change. Although we all wish we had changed our lives before we felt disgusted. Self-disgust doesn't have to be the end, but it can often be a new beginning that leads to a life you've always wanted.

Saint Joseph student advances to district level in Lions Peace Poster contest

WEBSTER — Saint Joseph School is proud to announce that the artwork created by eighth grade student Leah Boudreau has advanced to the district level in the Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest. The 2022 theme is "Lead with Compassion."

When creating her poster, Boudreau wanted to portray Jesus leading the world to peace because she believes that we can't accomplish peace without His love. In addition, her poster depicts students of many nationalities and cultures joining hands as they follow Jesus.

Leah used a mixture of markers and colored pencils to complete her drawing. Honorable Mentions were awarded to Saint Joseph School seventh grade students Claire Calnan, Laura Ibrahim, and sixth grade student Ayla Reed.

The goal of the Peace Poster Contest is to allow children in schools and youth groups everywhere to express their visions of peace through their art. Members of the Lion's Club are an example to the world that, through service, everyone can give and receive so much joy, kindness, hope, and peace. Dr.

John Kalinowski, a Webster Lions Club member, visited the school to notify the winners and posed for pictures with the students. Congratulations, students!



Courtesy
Saint Joseph School 8th Grade Student Leah Boudreau displays her winning poster in the Lions Club International Peace Poster Contest. She is pictured with Lions Club member Dr. John Kalinowski.

LEGALS

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 22 SM 003356
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Daniel P. Mehlhouse a/k/a Daniel Mehlhouse, Brandy Mehlhouse and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Nationstar Mortgage LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 37 Ash Street, given by Daniel P. Mehlhouse and Brandy Mehlhouse to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as nominee for Home Savings of America, dated February 9, 2011, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 47089, Page 43, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated March 6, 2014, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 52283, Page 336, and further affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated August 6, 2019, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61147, Page 238, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/ have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 12/26/2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 11/8/2022
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
November 18, 2022.

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 22 SM 003354
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Gloria E. Van Van
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq):
AJX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 60 Granite Street, given by Gloria E. Van Van to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Mid-Island Mortgage Corp., dated August 28, 2009, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44801, Page 64, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/ have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 12/26/2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 11/8/2022.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
November 18, 2022.

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 22 SM 003325
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:
Patricia L. Burns; Patricia L. Burns, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Conroy a/k/a Robert T. Conroy
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil

Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT,
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 3 Oakland Drive, given by Robert Conroy and Frances A. Conroy to Wilmington Finance, a division of AIG Federal Savings Bank, dated April 15, 2004, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 33353, Page 337, as affected by Judgment recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 61024 at Page 282 and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/ have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 19, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on November 4, 2022.
Attest:Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
15-004861
November 18, 2022.

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 22 SM 003199
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Dona M. Cutting and David A. Cutting and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemenbers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq) Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2021-JR1 Trust claiming to have an interest in a mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 21 Warren Road, given by Dona M. Cutting and David A. Cutting to Champion Mortgage, A Division of Keybank National Association, dated October 27, 2006, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40152, Page 33, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 12, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on October 27, 2022 Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
November 18, 2022.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket Nos. WO22P3729GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of
Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
Rachel L Torres
of Oxford, MA
Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED
PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **10/27/2022** by **Robert J. McGarry** of Oxford, MA **Joy M. Grudzinskas** of Oxford, MA will be held **12/01/2022 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located Worcester Probate and Family Court**
2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person

at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: November 1, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 18, 2022

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Larry D. Darling, Sr., to CitiFinancial Services, Inc., dated October 9, 2009, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44956 at Page 47, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from CitiFinancial Services, Inc., to CitiFinancial, Inc., dated June 17, 2013, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 51114, Page 268; by assignment from CFNA Receivables (MD), Inc. f/k/a CitiFinancial, Inc., to CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, dated April 21, 2016, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55261, Page 214; by assignment from CitiFinancial Servicing LLC, to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, dated April 21, 2016, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 55261, Page 215; by assignment from Community Loan Servicing, LLC, f/k/a Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, to Koitere Dispositions, LLC, dated March 15, 2021, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65308, Page 105; and by an assignment from Koitere Dispositions, LLC, to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series IV Trust, dated May 3, 2021, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 65308, Page 108, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 A.M. on the 13th day of December 2022 at 69 Ramshorn Road, Dudley, MA 01571, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
To wit:

A certain tract of land with the buildings thereon situated in said Dudley on the westerly side of Ramshorn Road, Bounded and described as follows:
BEGINNING at a stake in the westerly line of said Ramshorn Road 944.04 feet northwesterly of the northeasterly corner of land of one Dunham;
THENCE N. 23 degrees 12' W. 440 feet by the westerly line of said Ramshorn Road to the end of a stone wall;
THENCE S. 85 degrees 48' W., 317.15 feet along said stone wall to a corner of said wall;
THENCE S. 5 degrees 12' E. 600 feet along said stone wall to another corner of said wall;
THENCE N. 89 degrees 13' E., 302.75 feet along said stone wall to an iron pipe;
THENCE N. 23 degrees 12' W., 200 feet by land of the grantors to an iron pipe;
THENCE N. 89 degrees 13' E., 200 feet by land of the grantors to the point of beginning.
BEING the same premises described in a deed from Larry D. Darling, Sr. and Judith A. Darling to Larry D. Darling, Sr. and Judith A. Darling dated July 25, 1995 And recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 17193, Page 398.
Excepting therefrom the following

sales:
Book 4687, Page 267, Book 4891 Page 99, and Book 5038 Page 232 and 5045 Page 593
Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.
Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by wire transfer to Demerle Hoeger LLP, 10 City Square, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. Bank Trust
National Association,
as Trustee of the
Igloo Series IV Trust,
Present holder of said mortgage,
By its Attorneys,
Demerle Hoeger LLP
10 City Square, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02129
(617) 337-4444

November 18, 2022
November 25, 2022
December 2, 2022

**Town of Dudley
Public Hearing
Board of Selectmen**

The Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, November 21, 2022, at 6:35pm in the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA n the Veteran's Memorial Hall, Room 321A. The purpose of this Hearing: **To Act on an Application for a Class II License for Chrome, LLC located at 81 Oxford Ave., Dudley, MA 01571. Applicant: Brian Berthiaume.**
Anyone wishing to be heard should appear at the date and time specified or submits their concerns in writing.
Jason Johnson, Chairman
Dudley Board of Selectmen
November 18, 2022

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Oxford Public Library located at 339 Main Street, Oxford, Massachusetts 01540. The proposed Marijuana Establishment will be an Adult-Use Marijuana Cultivation and Manufacturing Establishment to be located at Boulder Industrial Park, Oxford, Massachusetts 01537. The Community Outreach Meeting will be held in accordance with Social Distancing Guidelines. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions.
November 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO22C0528CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Erika Joan Button**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Erika Joan Button of East Douglas MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Erika Joan Button-Secher**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/29/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 31, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 18, 2022



DWC MEMBERS ENJOY SOME FESTIVE FUN

The Dudley Woman's Club's November Club meeting was festive and fun! We welcomed Mary Daniels of Forget-Me-Nots Florist in Dudley, who demonstrated the making of a holiday centerpiece and some inside tips about the floral industry - great presentation, thank you Mary! In appreciation of Mary's time, the club donated \$200 in Forget-Me-Nots name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. We also heard from Darlene Wolcott who works closely with Dudley Middle School Lesa Patrock to brighten Christmas for children under the umbrella of the YOU Inc. Adopt-a-child-for Christmas program. DWC members voted to adopt three children at \$100 each, and donated gift bags and tissue to the cause, valued at \$170. Many club members also privately adopted children in the program...thanks to all!



New ways to display poinsettias this holiday season

Nothing says the holidays like a poinsettia. This year, try some new ways to display this festive plant.

Poinsettias are available in a variety of colors including white, pink, hot pink, yellow, peach, marbled and speckled. These colorful parts of the plant, often referred to as flowers, are actually modified leaves called bracts. The real flowers are small, yellow and appear at the tip of the stem surrounded by the bract.

Look for new places to display your poinsettia. Place a plant on a side or serving table. Remove the foil and set the plant in a decorative container. Try a hot pink poinsettia in a white pot or several different colors set in a serving tray, basket, or unique container. Add a table runner, candlestick, bowl of colorful fruit or other decorative touches.

Dress up individual or a group of poinsettias. White poinsettias donned with colorful berries, Chinese lantern pods and bobbles may be all you need for an eye-catching display.

Use poinsettias as a centerpiece for your holiday meals. Place several potted poinsettias in the middle of the table. Cover the plastic pots with greens. Then add some colorful pepper berries, cranberries, apples, or ornaments. Compact poinsettias like the Princettia® poinsettia with its abundant vibrant flowers work well for this application. Your guests will be able to see across the table as they visit over dinner, enjoying the holiday ambience created by these beautiful plants.

Dress up each place setting with a cut poinsettia bloom. Simply cut the flowers off a potted poinsettia plant to the desired length. Place it in a floral water pick, the water-filled tubes used for cut flowers. Tuck the bloom into a napkin, set it in a small bud vase or add a ribbon to dress it up. They make great party favors for your guests.

Look for other ways to include these in your holiday décor. Even one cut poinsettia flower set among a bowl of silver, gold or white ornaments adds a nice holiday touch. Set a few cut flowers aside to use as unique package adornments. Just secure the flower, floral pick and all, with a colorful ribbon to the gift.

Use cut poinsettia flowers in a vase like you would other blooms. Even one



Suntory Flowers — Courtesy
A holiday display with pink and red Princettia® Euphorbia poinsettias.

of these large blossoms puts on quite the display and is sure to brighten even the smallest of rooms.
Combine your poinsettia with a few greens and other flowers. Quickly sear the cut end of the poinsettia stems to prevent the sticky sap from leaking into the water. Dress up your arrangement by filling the vase with cranberries, small ornaments, or other colorful adornments.

While enjoying your holidays, a discussion on the proper pronunciation of the plant's name may arise. Some say Poinsett-a and don't pronounce the second i. Others include it and say Poinsett-e-a? You will find both pronunciations in various dictionaries. In other words, either one is considered correct, so no one loses this debate.

These colorful plants are sure to brighten your spirits throughout the holiday season, so be sure to make some space for a few poinsettia displays.

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



GOLFING IN THE STACKS

At the Gladys E. Kelly Library Mini-Golf event on Nov. 4 and 5, we had so much fun this year. We hope to see you again. Check out the library corner for more fun events at the library.

Friday's Child



Aiden
Age 11

Hi! My name is Aiden and I love cats and dogs!

Aiden is a pleasant, inquisitive, and friendly young boy of Caucasian descent. He is enrolled in middle school and is successful with supports. He is healthy and physically active; Aiden loves spending time outdoors. He likes to collect Pokémon cards, ride his bicycle and scooter, and play basketball. Aiden also loves cats and dogs.

Legally freed for adoption, Aiden would do well in a two-parent or single-parent household with no other children. A family with strong understanding of children with a trauma history and the behaviors that follow is needed for Aiden. He is a loving boy who would do best in a structured and nurturing family. A family

that loves the outdoors, playing sports, and spending time together would be ideal. Aiden has so much to bring to a family that can offer him the stability, love, and attention that he needs. Aiden visits with his biological mother twice a year per an Open Adoption Agreement and has an older sister he needs to keep in contact with.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6688>

Can I Adopt?

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

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





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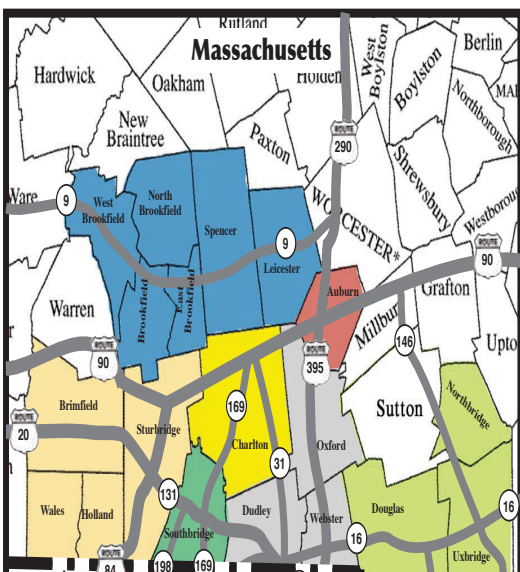
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Jason Bleau

PARADE HONORS LOCAL VETERANS

DUDLEY/WEBSTER — The towns of Webster and Dudley honored active and retired military veterans on Veterans Day with the town’s annual Veterans Day parade. The event saw military veterans and supporters take to the streets and march through both communities starting at the Dudley Town Hall and ending at Webster’s Town Hall, the home of numerous memorials to the armed forces. Short ceremonies at each location honored veterans of both past and present in a salute to everything they sacrificed to protect the freedoms of the United States.



The Disabled American Veterans drove a classic military vehicle through the streets of Dudley and Webster.

Veterans take part in a three-shot volley honoring their fellow armed servicemen and women who have gone before them.



The Dudley Boy Scouts Troop 273 prepares to march in the annual Veterans Day parade.



Parade Grand Marhsall Randy Snow greets guests as they prepare for the parade to step off.



Local town officials from Dudley and Webster make their way down the parade route towards Webster.



Local veterans present the American flags to lead the way down the parade route.



Recently re-elected State Rep. Joe McKenna joined in the Veterans Day activities marching the parade route with his young son Stephen.

SPORTS

Final home game leads to Final Four appearance for Oxford, who dispatch Murdock



Nick Ethier photos

Oxford quarterback Lucas Lambert evades the Murdock defense while looking to throw the ball.



Cameron Lavallee of Oxford crunches the Murdock ball carrier.



Oxford's Jadan Morales is off to the races on a 34-yard touchdown run.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — No matter the outcome in the Oxford High versus Murdock High of Winchendon football game on Friday, Nov. 11, the 10 Pirates’ seniors were playing in their final home game. And they made sure to make the most of it.

“The seniors, this is their last night on this field. I definitely reminded them of that, and I think they really went after it tonight,” said Oxford head coach Jeff Clarkson.

The Pirates, seeded third in Division 8, easily defeated the 11th ranked Blue Devils, 33-8, in the Round of 8. Oxford (9-1) will play No. 7 KIPP Academy (6-4) of Lynn in the Final Four at a neutral site — Ayer-Shirley High, at 6 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 18 — with a berth into the State Championship on the line.

“Even in the locker room yesterday, we were talking about how this is our last game here. We had to group up and get it done,” said the Pirates’ Brett Morgan, one of the team’s seniors.



Robbie Fisher of Oxford runs through would-be Murdock tacklers.

Oxford got the scoring started on their second possession when senior Jadan Morales busted off a 34-yard touchdown run up the middle. Senior quarterback Lucas Lambert tacked on the two-point conversion rush, and it was an 8-0 game with 3:17 remaining in the opening quarter.

Then, early in the second, the Pirates went ahead 14-0 when Lambert (139 passing yards, 68 rushing yards) hit junior Robbie Fisher on a 34-yard scoring strike, Fisher catching the ball with two Murdock defenders running into each other.

Oxford’s defense then got into the fun when sophomore Kellen Clarkson picked off a pass, and the Pirates went back to work. Morales (11 carries, 66 yards) finished the ensuing drive with a 2-yard TD rush, and it was a 20-0 game.

Oxford took a 27-0 lead into the half-time break when, with 31 seconds remaining, Lambert threw a screen pass to his left side toward Morgan. Morgan caught the ball, broke out even

more left toward the sideline, and scampered 84 yards to the house for six more points. Junior Alex Perry tacked on the extra point kick.

“Brett came up huge for us on that run, on that screen,” Jeff Clarkson said. “That was unbelievable. He hit that corner flying.”

“Lucas (Lambert) is a great QB and he told me exactly what I was running. We’ve done that a million times in practice over and over, and we executed it perfectly,” added Morgan. “Robbie (Fisher) got the block and I was out. I just saw daylight. My corner was inside too much and he left me the outside, I took the sideline and took off.”

Oxford added its final points with under eight minutes remaining in the ballgame. Lambert again found Morgan, this time from 9 yards out as Lambert finished with 3 TD’s.

The Blue Devils got on the scoreboard with three minutes to go to end the shut-out bid, but it didn’t bother the Pirates, who celebrated on the field for quite a while following the game.

“Our defense has won games for us all year. I’m proud of our linebacking crew and our D-line,” said Jeff Clarkson before turning his attention toward the playoff structure. “We had such a good time last year and going in and playing Randolph and losing by two points, we got a little something to go after.”

Oxford lost to Randolph a year ago, 8-6, in the Final Four. Randolph then won the State Championship, which is where Morgan and Co. would like to get to.



Oxford's Kellen Clarkson leaps up to intercept a Murdock pass.

“We just need to go win that. We’ve been here before and know what to do — we’ve just got to do it,” said Morgan.

SPORTS

Running Rams pick up hard-earned victory over Auburn



Auburn's Keating Oliver fights for extra yardage while carrying the ball.



Auburn defender Christian Sacco saves a touchdown by tackling Shepherd Hill's Lucas Welton near the goal line.

By Nick Ethier
Sports Editor

AUBURN — The Shepherd Hill Regional varsity football team is at its best when methodically rushing the ball down the field, taking minutes upon minutes of time off the clock in the process. A perfect example of that came when the Rams played at Auburn High's Memorial Field on Thursday, Nov. 10 in a non-playoff matchup.

With Shepherd Hill holding a 31-16 lead and 10:15 remaining in the game, the Rams' defense forced the Rockets into a turnover on downs at The Hill's own 5-yard line. What transpired next was a 16-play, 95-yard drive that nearly took eight minutes off the game clock by the time Lucas Welton found the end zone from 23 yards out.

Shepherd Hill won the game, 38-16.

"That's how we play football. It's what we try to do all the time and at the end of the day it's a testament to the kids that they came out in the second half and knuckled down and really went to what we do and played within themselves," explained Dave Buchanan, head coach of the Rams. "I'm so proud of them because they've been through it and this senior class has been through it with a really difficult year. They've worked so, so hard. This time of year, when it's just tough, they came out and were so focused and were so ready to work tonight. I'm so proud of the effort they put forth."

Shepherd Hill trailed by a point at halftime, 16-15, but scored on all three of its second-half possessions, while

Auburn was unable to score on any of its three times holding the ball.

"When we are executing and we are clicking, that's where we want to be," said Buchanan.

The Rams struck first back in the first quarter with about four minutes gone, Luke Miller rushing in a 61-yard score after spinning off his linemen and bouncing out to the right. Miller also tacked on the extra point kick, and it was a 7-0 game.

The Rockets responded on their next possession, it culminating with quarterback Mason Voeng (7 of 16, 76 yards, TD, INT) hitting Dan Handfield on an 8-yard scoring strike. Nathan Cook then rushed in the two-point conversion, and Auburn held an 8-7 lead.

With the game now in the second quarter, the Rockets added to the lead when Keating Oliver rushed up the middle and didn't stop until he found the end zone from 4 yards out. Jayden Ortiz then hit Oliver with the two-point conversion pass.

Shepherd Hill cut the halftime deficit down to 16-15 when quarterback Luke Hill hit Welton on a 22-yard pass and Jaden Mello took a poor snap and turned it into a two-point conversion rush.

The second half then saw Welton score twice from 23 yards out, which was sandwiched in between by a Mello 1-yard TD. Welton (rush), Andruw Martinez (pass from Mello on another fumbled snap) and Miller (PAT) added the extra points.

Welton (14 carries, 148 yards), Miller



Quarterback Mason Voeng of Auburn launches a touchdown pass. are very excited to be



Shepherd Hill's Luke Miller is off to the races and doesn't stop running until he reaches the end zone for a 61-yard touchdown.



Caden Marotta of Shepherd Hill carries the ball and bounces out to the right side.



Shepherd Hill's Jaden Mello dives to break up a pass, nearly intercepting the ball in the process.

(15 carries, 120 yards) and Mello (13 carries, 74 yards) were the leading rushers for the Rams, who improved to 3-7 in what has been a trying season as they prepare for their Thanksgiving Day game.

"At this point, when you get to November, we want Thanksgiving. It's a great rivalry with Tantasqua, and we

there. We are very excited to have the opportunity to host them this year," said Buchanan.

Auburn is now 6-4 and also have a Thanksgiving Day game. The Rockets will host Leicester High for the second annual Tarantino Cup.

MOHEGAN BOWL FALL LEAGUES, WEEK ENDING NOV. 13

Monday Men's Business
Single — Ryan Pelletier 147, Mike Taft Sr. 127, Dan Labay 118
Series — Ryan Pelletier 413, Mike Taft Sr. 327, Tim Labay 325
Series over average — Ryan Pelletier +65

Ten Pin City
Single — Division 1: Dawn Kupiec 165
Division 2: Bernie Stackpole 169
Series — Division 1: Natalie Wood 586
Division 2: Marissa Mink 555

Tuesday Chet's Social
Single — Ryan Pelletier 123, John

Dupuis 121, Angel Claudio 118, Erin Van Dam 124, Diane Levesque 107, Courtney Boulay 99
Series — Ryan Pelletier 338, Michael LeBlanc 316, DJ Devish and Angel Claudio 308, Erin Van Dam 323, Diane Levesque 278, Kerry Welsh 276
Series over average — Robert Rogers +39, Erin Van Dam +35

Wednesday Women's Industrial
Single — Roberta Zacek 106, Monique Pierangeli 102, Tara LaLiberte 99
Series — Monique Pierangeli 282, Lynne Smith 274, Tara LaLiberte 272
Series over average — Kim Mendes +40

Summit Tenpin
Single — Division 1: Derek Reynolds 232
Division 2: Lee Standrowicz 201
Series — Division 1: Bob Hanville 637
Division 2: Justin McGroary 514

Thursday Morning Coffee
Single — Jessica Agazarian 101, Barbara Penniman 98, Flo Jedrzynski and Pat Blake 94
Series — Jessica Agazarian 272, Barbara Penniman 264, Flo Jedrzynski 262

Series over average — Juanita Cristina +41

Thursday Men's Industrial
Single — Ryan Pelletier 146, Mike Papandrea 124, Bill Sgariglia 123
Series — Ryan Pelletier 404, Noah Burrill 316, Bo Gauvin 315
Series over average — Mike Papandrea +69

Thursday Mixed Tenpin
Single — Todd Gaucher 245, Marc Vigeant 222, Chris Wong Kam 192
Series — Todd Gaucher 545, Frank Bosma 501, Marc Vigeant 482



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WEBSTER LAKE - PATTISON RD

LAND - Terrific opportunity 14,798 Sq. Ft. of LAND. CONSERVATION APPROVAL for proposed Building, MASS DEP# 313-1167. 248 +/- Road Frontage, 279 +/- Water Frontage. Town Water & Sewer accessible.
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THOMPSON - 266 POMPEO ROAD

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WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE

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Option 3 - Build a 2 Family!

WEBSTER - NEW ENGLAND COMMONS

ON DEPOSIT IN 6 DAYS
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DUDLEY - 18 WARSAW AVE

ON DEPOSIT IN 6 DAYS
3 bedroom ranch has gleaming hardwood floors, Corian countertops, 3 season porch. Many updates! New shingle roof, Burdus boiler, Roth Tank + New Hot Water Heater. Central Air! Heated lower level.
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OXFORD - LAND - General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! LAND with 4,095 SF Metal Building! 124 SOUTHBRIDGE RD (RTE 20). Town Sewer Project Plans are Approved. 22,884 sq. ft Level Lot. 140 ft of road frontage.
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OXFORD - LAND - RTE 20 General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! Vacant LAND, Level & cleared. 39.549 SF.
\$419,000.
PUTNAM - LAND Zoned General Business. 29 acre 103' frontage. Water, Sewer, & city gas available. 2 street entrances.
\$125,000
OXFORD - 2 Merriam Rd 80+/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton.
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Webster Lake 13 Loveland Rd

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Nichols College to host holiday kickoff celebration

DUDLEY — Nichols College will host its second annual Light up the Hill on Thursday, Dec. 1, at 5 p.m. on the Nichols campus.

Residents from the area towns of Dudley, Webster, Oxford and Charlton are invited to join the campus community in ringing in the 2022 holiday season with several activities, including a tree and Menorah lighting, Christmas caroling, a winter market featuring student entrepreneurs, firepits, cocoa and cookies.

Non-perishable and personal care items will also be collected for the Bison Pantry to benefit students confronting food insecurity.

For more information, contact Cari Cyr in the Nichols College President's Office at cari.cyr@nichols.edu.

CANNABIS

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member said he'd recently toured the Curaleaf growing facility in town and thought the "main culprit" was their "processing rooms," which didn't have strong enough HVAC scrubbing systems. He was concerned the KBD site "is much closer to a residential area" and expects to hear "complaints from residents fairly quickly."

Bothelo acknowledged that the major odor issue "comes from when they're ready to harvest, and we're not going to be growing anything to that completion anyway." He said KBD will be "nowhere near the scale Curaleaf is," is already working on odor control systems, and their goal is to keep the cannabis sealed for as long as possible to maintain freshness.

"The last thing we want to do is get the community upset at us, because that doesn't end well for anybody," Bothelo said.

Lastly, delivery will be a "business to business" enterprise using a couple of small vans, not for supplying individual customers. He said it's a "pretty easy logistics model to make that work."

Bothelo said he has already spoken to Police Chief Michael Shaw about various community concerns and security. Among them was traffic; he said the place will grow to three shifts of 12-15 employees per shift over six to nine months and see "up to four or five vans coming or going per day." Mostly, they'll enter via the site's existing garage doors, and be loaded/unloaded in a closed space. He said there will be no general public access.

Chair Paul LaFramboise said the board will want peer review of the odor control systems because nobody on the board has "this kind of experience. ... We can't go through what we've been through with the grow facility because it's just not fair to the town."

"I understand," Bothelo said a little later. "I don't have it in my backyard."

He noted The Vault sees about 500 people a day, which he dubbed "a healthy number" but a bit lower than the 700-800 they expected when planning the project. He expects the number to drop when the first Connecticut cannabis sites open, since they recently legalized it there, too.

KBD's public hearing has not yet been scheduled. The board's next two meetings are Nov. 28 and Dec. 19, but neither had an agenda available as of last weekend.

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

PLAN

continued from page A1

They run 24/7, so they just need to be replaced as part of general maintenance."

Looking ahead, the district will be in need of a whole new fleet of computers in the near future. D'Arcangelo said a good portion of the active computers will need to be replaced due to outdated software capabilities.

"We have 1,200 computers we have to upgrade to Windows 11 or above in less than two years. Windows 10 support will end on Oct. 14 of 2025. At that point Microsoft no longer supports Windows 10. There are no security updates. Anything not upgraded needs to be removed from the network. Part of that upgrade is going to be replacing 500 computers. There are a bunch of computers that will not run Windows 11 or above. They're five to nine years

DUDLEY

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ing and in 2012 the town entered a 20-year agreement to purchase solar credits at 85 cents per kilowatt hour with a 2 percent annual escalator. Ruda said this has helped offset 85 percent of the town's energy usage as Dudley continued to reap the benefits to this day even with a naturally increasing rate as equipment ages halfway through the contract.

"We've had a lot of discussions over the last four years about our solar tax credits. As time goes on the amount produced by a solar array reduces so over the course of 20 years that 85 percent average amount reduces because of the capacity of the batteries and so forth. Additionally, there's a 2 percent annual escalator, which on 85 cents per kilowatt hour doesn't amount to too much, but now at the halfway mark we're paying closer to 9 cents per kilowatt hour which is still significantly lower than the National Grid average rate of 26 cents per kilowatt hour," said Ruda.

However, the Town Administrator admitted the other 15 percent of energy defaults to National Grids rate which is where negotiations with the state

old and they need to be replaced," said D'Arcangelo.

He also informed the School Committee that the entire fleet of 1,800 Chromebooks will need to be replaced before 2027. An exact cost for these replacements was not provided during the meeting but D'Arcangelo indicated that it would be too much to ask the public to pay for it all at once.

Members of the School Committee discussed the potential workaround of embracing a "bring your own device" or "BYOD" approach allowing students to bring their own laptops or Chromebooks to school instead of providing a computer for every child while still investing in a certain number of computers to provide for those families who can't afford the technology. This approach is already being embraced at the high school level, but Superintendent Steven Lamarche noted that they have not found a good way to

implement the practice in lower grades.

D'Arcangelo's final note in the update was the need for additional staff in his department. He explained that the Tech Department has worked with only three employees for 15 years. However, as technology has become a larger part of the school experience, he feels that the workload is overwhelming him and his personnel.

"We're averaging around 2,200 tickets. That's a low-ball number. We've already closed almost 1,000 this year and it's the middle of November. We're kind of treading water in a couple of areas. We're definitely looking to get some assistance," said D'Arcangelo.

The School Committee did not implement any immediate course of action to help implement any of the proposals in D'Arcangelo's plan. A copy of the five-year Technology Plan has been made available on the School Committee's page of the district Web site.

are applied. Ruda discussed how many towns in the commonwealth negotiate with the Massachusetts Municipal Association and Dudley has been utilizing that service for 12 years. The town recently locked in a 24-month contract at 16 cents per kilowatt hour, ten cents less than National Grid's price. Dudley has also worked with the schools in town to consider them municipal off-takers, allowing them to take advantage of the town's meter credits as well. Combine these numbers with Dudley's utilization of Green Communities grants and other small changes like adding LED lighting to the town hall and Ruda believes Dudley has stayed on the right track to being a more energy efficient community.

However, when it comes to the taxpayers themselves Ruda and the selectmen acknowledged that increasing rates are adding to financial struggles during an already difficult economic time. One path that Ruda vehemently declared the town should pursue is municipal aggregate pricing, a strategy utilized by around 150 communities in the commonwealth already including Worcester and Dudley's neighbor, Webster.

"The most compelling argument I've heard to date was from my colleague,

the Town Administrator in Webster, who told me that Webster has benefited from municipal electricity aggregation, and they've already passed it at town meeting," said Ruda. "The town of Webster is poised as of this past October, based on real and forecasted electricity rates on average, for savings of \$130 per electric bill for their residents because of this program. That's per month on average. So, it's something we definitely want to pursue."

If Dudley wanted to explore the concept of aggregate pricing it would require approval at a town meeting to authorize the Board of Selectmen to explore and enter into such agreements. It would also require approval on the state level which Ruda said could take up to 14 months from the date of town meeting approval. Ruda promised he would seek to include aggregate pricing on the 2023 annual town meeting warrant for consideration.

Ruda also explained that citizens have numerous relief programs at their disposal including income qualified discounts. Information on those energy relief programs, including shut off protection for electricity, has been made available on the Town of Dudley website.

2023 pilgrimages led by St. Andrew Bobola Church

DUDLEY — Enrollment for four exciting pilgrimages, scheduled for 2023, is now open. Rev. Chris Korcz of St. Andrew Bobola Parish in Dudley will provide the spiritual guidance for the tours, which will be arranged by REK Travel from Chicago, Ill.

May 23-June 1 – Balkan Sanctuaries - \$3,195
Aug. 21-Sept. 1 – Poland - \$3,295
Oct. 16-Oct. 27 – Holy Land and Jordan - \$3,195
Dec. 5-Dec. 13 – Mexico and Acapulco - \$1,995

Thirty guests must register in order for advertised pricing to be held. For more information, please visit our Web sites: www.standrewbobola.com or www.rektravel.com.

Call today to reserve your spot - St. Andrew Bobola Parish, 54 West Main St., Dudley, tel: 508-943-5633 or Rek Travel Agency, 5825 W Irving Park Rd, Chicago, IL 60634, tel: 773-777-7733.



Courtesy

ALL SAINTS STUDENT WINS LIONS PEACE POSTER COMPETITION

All Saints Academy seventh grader, Kamryn Fasshauer, won the Lions Club Peace Poster Regional Design Competition. Kamryn thought about the meaning of this year's theme, 'Lead with Compassion,' to determine her design. Kamryn used her creativity and her genuinely kind personality to create this beautiful drawing. After completing her work of art, she was happy to see the meaning of her picture, 'Peace should be as easy as crossing a crosswalk, but the traffic must stop for it too,' truly came to life.

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NICHOLS

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it has to be fully kept on site,” said Walsh. “The best sand and gravel sites, sometimes you can do that if you’ve got a large enough area and not a lot of slopes or you can have large infiltration basins. In a case like this, on a hill with high groundwater, those conditions just don’t allow for complete loss infiltration, if you will, of the runoff of the site,” Walsh said.

He added that the town usually has to approve a connection to the community’s system, however the proposed site already has a connection to the municipal system so Nichols is within its right to utilize that tie-in for the townhouse project as long as they don’t exceed certain peak runoff numbers.

While past meetings had seen numerous members of the public state their opinion on the project, the final portion of the hearing features a sparse crowd and only one citizen speaking against the initiative with concerns that the project would increase their home insurance costs. Despite some concerns from Planning Board members about worst case scenario weather and nature disaster events, the Board closed the hearing after less than half an hour of discussion and approved the project as presented in the October meeting. The approval came with several caveats including, but not limited to, planting a row of arborvitae to help offset light pollution, installing a guardrail, and proof of the completed acquisition of 99 Center Road, a property Nichols is purchasing to further accommodate the project.

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