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Auburn News

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Building community and character at Saint Joseph School's December Assembly

Courtesy
Students at Saint Joseph School were honored with the Saint Martin de Porres Award during the school's December Recognition and School Spirit Assembly, recognizing their kindness, humility, and service to others in the spirit of Saint Martin de Porres. Student award recipients include: Pre-K 3-year-old: Jameson Proffer, Pre-K 4-year-old: Olive MacPherson, Kindergarten: Emilia Dziobak, Grade 1: Magdalena Kosiorek, Grade 2: Charlotte Marchand, Grade 3: Wrenna Shemansky, Grade 4: Olivia Guinto, Grade 5: Julia-Ann McCracken, Grade 6: Allen Oliver Jean-Paul, Grade 7: Lily Martin, Grade 8: Tenleigh Dowd.

BHS Indoor Track team shines at CMAC Meet

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High School Boys and Girls Indoor Track teams delivered an outstanding performance at the recent CMAC Indoor Track Meet at Northbridge High School on Jan. 6, highlighted by first-place finishes and a wave of personal records across multiple events.

In the 50-yard dash, Xavier Sarfo captured first place on the boys' side with a time of 5.80 seconds, while Deborah Lamptey took first place for the girls with a time of 6.80 seconds. Both performances were personal records.

Additional personal records in the 50-yard dash were set by Hunter Claypool, Cameron Hast, Karielyz Morales, and Jetsun Lama. In the 300-meter run, several athletes posted their personal-best performances, including Eryk Piwowarczyk, Xavier Sarfo, Hunter Claypool, and Karielyz Morales. Finally, in the shot put, Cameron Forsythe, Johan Vanlamoen Lopez, and Hunter Adams each recorded their personal-best throws, as well.



WEBSTER — On Dec. 16, Saint Joseph School gathered in the Nowak Gymnasium for its monthly Recognition and School Spirit Assembly, a tradition designed to strengthen community, celebrate growth, and reinforce the values that guide daily life at SJS.

Each assembly follows a consistent format that helps students build pride and a shared sense of purpose. The assembly begins with a welcome from Principal Mrs. Beth Boudreau, followed by the recitation of the school's mission statement. This month, Grade 1 students volunteered to lead the student body—an opportunity that encourages confidence, leadership, and ownership of Saint Joseph School's guiding principles of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. With upbeat

music playing throughout the gym, students are invited to celebrate one another's successes and the joy of being part of a faith-filled school community.

A meaningful portion of every assembly is the recognition of monthly birthdays. All students and faculty members born in November were honored and received a book from the school. Birthday celebrants were then recognized by the entire student body through two songs: the familiar "Happy Birthday," and "Sto Lat," a traditional Polish birthday song whose lyrics wish someone "one hundred years." Singing Sto Lat is a beloved Saint Joseph School tradition and a tribute to the Polish heritage that has long been an important part of the school and parish community.

Monthly assemblies also include a rotating special award that connects student character to the lives of the saints and the school's mission. In November, Saint Joseph School presented the Saint Martin de Porres Award, named for the Peruvian saint whose feast

Turn To ASSEMBLY page A9

Zion and Reconciliation Friends visit St. Ann Arts and Cultural Center



OXFORD — Members from Zion Lutheran Church in Oxford and Church of the Reconciliation in Webster recently traveled to Woonsocket, R.I., for a tour of the St. Ann Arts and Cultural Center. Docent Joe Petrucci led the tour while the friends gazed upon ornate stained glass windows from Chartres, France, a magnificent Carrara marble altar featuring eight colors, and the largest collection of fresco paintings in North America.

The center is often called "America's Sistine Chapel." The treasures preserved in the former St. Ann's church are the work of a small Italian hunchback, artist Guido Nincheri. When he saw the plain walls of the church, Nincheri offered to decorate them with frescoes depicting stories from the Old and New Testaments. His commission was a mere \$25,000. Working for eight years throughout the 1940's, the artist used members of the parish and neighboring

community as models for the 475 faces of angels and saints that grace his masterpieces on the walls, vaults, and ceilings. Most subjects were immigrant farmers who had left Quebec for work in the Woonsocket textile mills. Sympathetic to their poverty, Nincheri paid each model 50 cents. He gave their children, many of whom attended the parish school, peanut butter sandwiches. It was astonishing to learn that the pennies, nickels, and

dimes lovingly dropped into the weekly offering plate paid the artist's bill. The former St. Ann's Church is now a non-profit corporation that relies on visitors' donations and volunteers who preserve and continue to restore the building and the treasures within. Everyone was awestruck that such a glorious monument to art and history exists just a short drive away!

DWC embraces health and wellness at first meeting of 2026



DUDLEY — The Dudley Woman's Club Jan. 8 meeting was all about health and wellness in the New Year. More than 45 members and guests gathered and welcomed authors Brad & Pamela Thompson, who shared their bestselling book *Stress Less, Thrive More: Discover the Secrets to Physical, Emotional, and Mental Wellness*.

As a thank you to the authors, the DWC donated \$200 in their name to TEEG, a nonprofit human service organization that provides support to Northeast Connecticut families.

Our voluntary January Giving Project was new socks of all sizes for folks who receive services from the Webster-Dudley Food Share. Our generous members donated 201 pairs of socks valued at \$552.

The DWC membership of more than 70 women of various ages and backgrounds from Dudley, Webster, Southbridge, Charlton, Uxbridge and several Northern Connecticut towns work together to uplift and support our communities. To learn more, visit www.dudleywomansclub.org.

QCC awarded \$240,000 by state for re-entry workforce program

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College was recently awarded \$240,000 for a workforce development program to train formerly incarcerated individuals. The funding is part of the Healey-Driscoll Administration’s \$2.2 million in Re-entry Workforce Development Demonstration grants for individuals returning to the workforce.

QCC has received the Re-entry grant since 2022 and will continue to partner with the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office to offer a training program that focuses on the culinary and hospitality industry. Program graduates will be placed in food preparation roles

through organizations such as Snapchef, Latin American Health Alliance – Hector Reyes House and Massachusetts Restaurant Association.

“This type of partnership helps these individuals build a sustainable future,” said QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja. “This program offers more than job training; it creates opportunities for returning citizens to thrive and contribute to their communities.”

“Building on the success of previous programs, the culinary training focus will give participants hands-on skills in a field with high demand for workers,” said Director of Workforce

Development Operations Kathleen O’Connor. “In past years, our programs have seen positive outcomes in improving employment and stability for individuals re-entering society.”

The program will serve 20 participants, who will receive training that includes basic culinary techniques, food safety, menu planning and customer service. Participants will also receive three industry-recognized credentials. In addition to mastering culinary skills, the program places a strong emphasis on healthy eating and cooking.

Oxford Community Center hosting Fun, Frost & Family Festival Jan. 31

OXFORD — The Oxford Community Center will be having its Fifth Annual Fun, Frost & Family Festival on Saturday, Jan. 31.

The event will kick-off with the Polar Plunge at 10:30 a.m. at Caruncle Pond. This will be followed by a Pancake Breakfast at the First Congregational Church, 355 Main St., from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. The main events will be held on the Oxford Common from noon to 3 p.m., and will feature something for everyone including food trucks, fire pits, s’mores, music, games and more! Also starting at noon, the Oxford Library will be hosting Kids’ Crafts and Storytime.

Finally, the Oxford Community Center will be having a Vendor Fair, Cookie Decorating, Magic Shows, Face Painting and a Photo Booth. Come out to this year’s Winter Festival and join in the fun!

Bartlett Class of 1976 planning 50-year reunion

REGION — Attention, classmates of Bartlett High School, graduating class of 1976!

We have been searching high and low for you! We are planning a 50th class reunion for the summer of 2026 and would like to see you there.

We have been busy doing Google searches, Facebook searches, LinkedIn searches, general searches, “Hey, does anyone know where ____ has been?” searches and yes, sadly, even obituary searches, to find you. Yet, there are still a few of you that we still have been

unable to locate.

Whether you are now living out of state or are using a different name, we are hoping that some of your family or friends are still in the area and can let you know we are looking for you and your contact information.

If you have bot been contacted by one of us or have not reached out to connect with us, we would very much like to hear from you to see if you would be interested in attending the reunion.

If you also have information on

a classmate and can share it with us, we would be very appreciative.

Patricia (Patty O’Connell) Battista (e-mail: pattybattista123@gmail.com ~OR~ Facebook: Patty O’Connell Battista)

Donna Shutts (email: dshutts-re@gmail.com or Facebook: Donna Shutts)

Kathleen Jewell-Kelleher (email: Kkelleher251@gmail.com or Facebook: Kathleen Jewell-Kelleher)

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SNHU announces Fall President’s List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 President’s List. The fall terms run from September to December.

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

Kylie Lambert of Auburn
Dina Holmes of Auburn
Nathaniel Kunz of Auburn
Andrea Wilson of Auburn
Michaela Ebbeling of Dudley
Lorilei Czesnowski of Webster
Meighan McCarthy of Webster
Mark Bennett of Webster
Ognjen Milosavljevic of Webster
Kenzie Bylund of Oxford
Jaime Libby of Oxford
Kevin Meleshuk of Oxford
Christian Collette of Oxford
Daniel Lasky of Oxford

SNHU announces Fall Dean’s List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2025 Dean’s List. The fall terms run from September to December.

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

Nicole Faulkner of Dudley
Marc Judiel Banzuela of Webster
Eryk Chamberlin of Webster
Tatiana Landin of Oxford
Jillian Stapleton of Auburn

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution with a 93-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 200,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 undergraduate, graduate, and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the “Most Innovative” regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner.

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DISCOVER

PET of the WEEK



MEET Dottie

Dottie has been soaking up all the love and sunshine in foster and now she’s looking for that special someone who will give her the time and space she needs to thrive. Dottie may take a minute to warm up, but once she does, she’s all in — loyal, affectionate, and eager to be near her people. She loves lounging on the bed or sunbathing on her fosters deck in the backyard. Dottie is a quick learner and is having fun with training and games like “find it” that engage her nose and brain. She’s a strong girl and can be enthusiastic on leash — especially when squirrels or exciting scents are involved. Quiet walking routes are best for her, and she LOVES to sniff and explore at her own pace. She also LOVES car rides! Dottie is looking for an adult-only home, where she will be the only pet, with people who understand that good relationships take time.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Why January still matters

January rarely earns much affection. The holidays are behind us, the weather tests patience, and the calendar seems stripped of the celebrations that brighten other months. Yet in towns like Webster, Dudley and Oxford, January plays an important and often overlooked role. It is the month when much of the real work quietly resumes.

While snowbanks line the streets and daylight feels scarce, local boards and committees return to regular schedules. Budgets begin to take shape, environmental matters continue their careful review, and long-range planning restarts without the distractions that arrive later in the year. These meetings may not draw large crowds, but they are where decisions are made that guide the town through spring and beyond. January is not about ribbon cuttings; it is about groundwork.

This time of year also restores rhythm. Schools settle into predictable routines after the holidays. Libraries, senior centers, and community organizations return to steady programming. For families, January brings structure after weeks of disruption. For older residents, it offers familiar touch-points that help ward off winter isolation. These routines may not make headlines, but they form the backbone of community life.

January is also a test of resilience. Winter expenses weigh heavily, particularly on those living on fixed incomes. Local businesses face slower foot traffic even as heating and operating costs rise. Choosing to shop locally, attend meetings, or check in on a neighbor becomes more meaningful when conditions are less forgiving. Small decisions carry more weight this time of year.

There is value in this quieter stretch of the calendar. Without festivals or parades, January invites attention to the less visible parts of civic life. It reminds residents that community is sustained not by occasional celebrations, but by consistency, responsibility, and participation when it would be easier to stay home.

Webster has long been a town that understands the importance of showing up, even when no one is watching. January reinforces that lesson. It is not a pause between better months; it is a season that prepares the ground for everything that follows.

Spring will arrive soon enough, bringing activity and noise with it. For now, January is doing what it does best: keeping Webster focused, steady, and ready for what comes next.

Letter submission policy

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

Viewpoint

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



Courtesy

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH CHILDREN SHARE THE CHRISTMAS STORY

The Sunday School children of Zion Lutheran Church, 70 Main St., Oxford, were excited to present "Follow That Light" as part of the Christmas Eve service. Shepherds followed the angels and "wise women" followed the star to the Babe in Bethlehem. The playlet concluded with loud announcements: "This baby is our King!" He is the Light of the World!" "Let us shine our lights for the world to see!"

A shoemaker in the family: The family behind the exhibit

BY HELEN POIRIER
AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A few years ago, the Auburn Historical Society & Museum received a donation of a shoemaker's bench that was very well stocked with all supplies needed to make pairs of shoes. The bench was owned originally by Dennis Hinckley in 1880. The census from 1850 to 1880 shows Dennis working in the footwear industry. In 1850 he was living in Spencer and was making boots, but not rubber ones. In 1860 he moved to Brookfield where Oliver Ward was instrumental in the revival of the town through shoe and boot manufacturing. The 1870 census shows Dennis in Barre working for a boot factory so when the 1880 census shows him living in Auburn and was a bootmaker, it seems likely he owned his own bench and tools.

Dennis was born in 1821 in Canada. His naturalization papers of 1851 stated that he arrived in Williston Vermont in November 1839. He was married to Luce Arpin dit Potvin [Lucy Potvin] of Canada. They had 10 children, the first being Dennis Fordina, born November 14, 1849.

In the 1870 when the family was living in Barre both men were working in a boot factory. Dennis F. got married Nov. 8 in 1870 to Onesime Elizabeth Charron. Their first child, Augusta Josephine, came in 1873. When the 1880 census came around the families were living in Auburn but had gone different ways with occupations. "Grampa" Dennis was listed as a Bootmaker, but Dennis F. was working in a mill. In 1990 the family was living on Boyce Street with 6 children, and Dennis F. was working as a merchant grocer.

There was a news item on Sept. 5, 1899, in the Worcester Spy, that stated Willis A. Taft, who owned the Stoneville Store, sold out to Dennis Hickley who had been working for Mr. Taft as a clerk for nearly 11 years. In 1899 Dennis also started to get into town government, he was put on a committee to look after affairs from the Stoneville district of town. In 1902, he was a selectman and was one for three years. At the time of his death in 1939, he was the oldest resident in town.

Fred Howard Hinckley was born on Dec. 28, 1890, in the multi-generational house on Boyce Street. In the 1910 census he was working as a commercial salesman in clothing. By 1920 – 1940 the census stated he was an operator in a machine shop. The 1950 census, when he was 58, had him as a maintenance man for the M.J. Whitehall Company of Worcester,

working an 8-hour day. By then he married Genevieve Wawiernia in 1932 in Kings, N.Y. They had two children, Fredric C. who was born in 1939 and Carol Ann, born 1943.

Fred Howard was a veteran of WWII serving in the army, E Battery, 102d regiment F.A. Yankee Division. Several of his letter's home were printed in the Worcester Telegram while he was over in France. He was assigned special duty as a yard clerk and interpreter and spent time at the front in major battles. In a letter dated May 26, 1918 he recounts his stay in towns that had very little left due the bombings, but while looking for someplace to eat in one of these towns an old French lady told him about a butcher shop where they could get eggs and meat at and if he and was Corp. Miller who was with him, wanted she would cook for them. It was raining and they didn't refuse the offer. The boys had dinner with the woman and her husband who insisted they stay the night. Fred enjoyed sleeping on a mattress. Fred also talked about the local boys that he saw like Ernest Raymond, George Lagasse, Charles Valley, Joseph Blake, Alex Matthews and Billy Wilkinson, all were doing well.

Fred was also a motorcycle enthusiast and took trips to New York City, Atlantic City, Philadelphia, Saratoga, and Niagara Falls with Wilfred Guilloite, George LePrade, Hector Audette and Arthur Audette. They were part of the Sunny Side Club.

Fred's son, Fredric C., attended Auburn High School and played on the football team. A team picture was found from mid 1950s when Mr. Sherry was coach and Mr. Trahan was assistant coach. Fred signed up for the Naval Reserve in 1957 and was part of the Patrol Squadron 8 Air Station, Norfolk Virginia. His rank was Ams2 which means Aviation Structural Mechanic Structural Petty Officer 2nd class, a rank that denotes a senior enlisted member responsible for the maintenance and repair of aircraft. He was discharged in June 1963. Fred never married.

It was fortunate that the shoemaker's bench and a vintage coat/hat bench found its way to the Auburn Historical Museum where it can be seen, and the Hinckley family be remembered.

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

Lanterns Along Main Street

There is a particular sound you hear in small towns this time of year, one that never quite makes it into the tourist brochures. It is the sound of ice being scraped from windshields in the half light of early morning, followed by the solid thump of a car door closing and the low, patient hum of an engine warming up. It is not a dramatic sound. It is not heroic. But it is the sound of people getting ready to do what needs to be done.

I noticed it the other morning as I stood at my own kitchen window, mug of coffee in hand, watching a neighbor across the way coax his car to life. He was dressed for the cold in the same practical way most folks around here are, nothing fancy, just layers and a good hat pulled down over his ears. He waved when he saw me, a small gesture that probably took more energy than he felt like giving at that hour. But he did it anyway.

Moments like that always make me think about how much of life in our towns runs on quiet habits rather than big announcements. Nobody sends out a press release when they shovel their walkway so the mail carrier does not slip. No one rings a bell when they bring in a neighbor's trash barrels because the wind tipped them over. These are not things people do for applause. They do them because that is how a place holds together.

In the larger world, everything seems to come with a microphone attached. Every opinion is amplified, every disagreement turned into a shouting match. But on Main Street, the old rules still seem to apply. You nod. You say good morning. You hold the door. You do not need to win anything. You just need to get through the day with a little decency left over.

I have lived long enough to know that this did not happen by accident. The people who built these towns, the ones whose names are still etched on the bricks and cornerstones, were not chasing attention. They were chasing stability. They wanted a place where you could raise a family, earn an honest living, and trust that when something went wrong, someone nearby would notice.

I think of that whenever I stop at the local coffee shop, where the same faces appear at the same stools, week after week. There is the man who always orders his coffee black and reads the paper from front to back, even the parts most people skip. There is the woman who keeps a little notebook, writing down reminders in neat, careful letters. They do not know everything about each other, but they know enough. They know who likes cream, who needs a little extra time to find their wallet, who has not been in for a few days and might deserve a quick phone call.

That is the thing about small towns. You are seen. Sometimes that can feel inconvenient. But most of the time, it is a gift.

I once heard someone say that modern life is about efficiency. You tap a screen and groceries arrive. You tap another and a movie starts. None of that is bad, but it does remove a certain kind of friction, the kind that forces us to notice one another. When you have to walk into a store, stand in line, and exchange a few words with a real person, you end up learning small things about the people around you. Those small things, added up over time, become community.

Even now, when so much is done through devices, the old patterns have not disappeared entirely. You still see them in the way folks look out for each other when the weather turns rough. You see them in the way local volunteers show up for events that do not make the evening news. You see them in the simple courtesy of letting someone go ahead of you at the register when they only have one item.

None of this is glamorous. But it is sturdy.

As I get older, I find myself appreciating that sturdiness more than ever. The world will always have its noise. It will always have its trends and its arguments and its urgent headlines. But here, along the sidewalks and storefronts of our Massachusetts towns, there are still lanterns lit by quieter things: habit, kindness, and a shared understanding that we are all, in our own way, in this together.

The neighbor eventually drove off, his headlights cutting through the cold blue morning. I finished my coffee and got ready for my own day, comforted by the thought that somewhere down the street, someone else was doing the same. No fanfare. No fuss. Just another small town waking up, one windshield scrape at a time.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JANUARY 16–23

WEBSTER

Municipal Meetings
Tuesday, Jan. 20

• Webster Conservation Commission
6–8 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, 2nd Floor, Webster Town Hall

Library

Webster Public Library

40 South Main St.

• Regular Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Senior Services

Webster Council on Aging / Senior Center

127 Main St.

• Regular Hours

Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

DUDLEY

Library

Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley

• Regular Hours

Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–8 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Senior Services

Dudley Senior Center

274 West Main St.

• Regular Hours

Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

OXFORD

Library

Oxford Public Library

339 Main St., Oxford

• Regular Hours

Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Sunday: Closed

Senior Services

Oxford Council on Aging / Senior Center

323 Main St.

• Regular Hours

Monday–Friday: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Winter schedules can change quickly. Residents are encouraged to confirm meetings and programs with town offices or libraries before attending.

Bingo Night fundraiser
to benefit Bartlett
PBIS program

WEBSTER — Bartlett High School invites the community to a Bingo Night fundraiser for the PBIS program Thursday, Feb. 12 from 6-8 p.m.

The \$5 entry cost includes five games with three Bingo cards. Additional cards can be purchased for \$5. Prizes awarded for each game played. Snacks and drinks available for purchase.

This event will be held in the high school cafeteria at 52 Lane Parkway, Webster.

Local residents named to
Dean’s List at Saint Anselm

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Saint Anselm College has released the Dean’s List of high academic achievers for the first semester of the 2025-2026 school year. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.4 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade. This semester there were a total of 702 students from 25 states, the District of Colombia, and 3 countries.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College, announced that Lily Carelli of Auburn and Natalie Burdett and Jared Ferschke of Dudley have been named to the Dean’s List for the fall 2025 semester.

About Saint Anselm College

Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a four-year liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and the seacoast, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, a highly successful nursing program, a legacy of community service and a commitment to the arts.

Dennis Francisco Torres Herrera
of San Salvador named to Texas
State University’s President’s List

SAN MARCOS, Texas — Texas State University is pleased to announce Dennis Francisco Torres Herrera of San Salvador has been named to its President’s List for Fall 2025.

Torres Herrera is majoring in Pre-business.

The President’s List is made up of students who earned a grade point average of 4.0 while enrolled in 12 or more GPA hours at Texas State University in the semester.

Bartlett High School
announces Egg Hunt

WEBSTER — Bartlett High School invites the community to an Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 28 from 8-10 a.m.

For an entry fee of just \$5 per person (children two and under free), participants can enjoy a breakfast of eggs, hash browns, sausage, fruit, juice, and coffee before heading out to locate as many eggs as they can for a chance at some great prizes. There will also be raffles and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny.

The high school is located at 52 Lane Parkway, Webster.

Local residents named
to UConn Dean’s List

STORRS, Conn. — The University of Connecticut congratulates the following students on being named to the Dean’s List for the fall semester of 2025.

Auburn

Lily Derenas, Nathan

Gawronski, Sydney

Lamontagne

Charlton

Colleen Cumming, Chloe

Graves, Akshat Viswanath

Douglas

Kaylee Bolin, Ashlyn

Leonard

Dudley

Thaomy Phung

Fiskdale

Grace Connors

Grafton

Sahnavi Rao Palimar,

Catherine Wroge

Groton

Allegra Gutermann,

Madelyn Kelly, Megan

Miller, Treyton Palmer

Leicester

Sarah Brouillard

Millbury

Samuel Bazydlo,

Francesca Beyer, Quinn

Romaine

Millville

Ashley Pisano, Julia

Trujillo

Milton

Odia Iyamu, Matthew

Paquette, Amelia Stallions

Northbridge

Sara Bedigian, Adriana

Tilison, Keira Touhey

Southbridge

Niyana Ramos

Spencer

James Mcnicol

Sturbridge

Kathleen Cropley

Upton

Marina Brockett-

Delgado, Alissa Christensen

Uxbridge

Adam Chen, Sydney

Daniels, Grace Mathieu

Whitinsville

Ian Gahan



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

The library will be closed be closed on Jan. 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The Children’s Room will be opening at 11 a.m. on Friday, Jan. 30. The second graders from Dudley Elementary will be taking a tour that day.

Please join us in the month of January to celebrate local artist, Jim Wilton. A variety of paintings & photography are on display for you to enjoy in the Fels Room whenever the Library is open.

ADULT EVENTS

Gentle Yoga
Mondays in January-NO SESSION
Monday January 19th
10:00-11:00

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

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

Mahjong at the Pearle
Every Wednesday in January
10:00-12:30 Fels Community Room
The game consists of players competing to form distinct sets or pairs of tiles, similar to gin rummy.
Everyone welcome, registration not required.

Quilting Group
Every Wednesday in January.
1:30- 3:30
All quilters and would-be quilters are invited to join our new group. Bring your projects!

Knit & Crochet Group
Every Thursday 5:30-7:45 and Friday 10:00-12:00
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group.
Bring your project, enjoy the company

Saturday, January 3rd
10:00-12:00 in the Fels Community Room
This is the group that played at our 15 Year Celebration!
This is an unplugged acoustic jam. All talent levels welcome...beginners on up!
Don’t want to play? No problem, listeners are welcome too!

Communication Exchange Series with Jessica
Thursday, January 29th 6:00-7:00
Wish you could be a better communicator or listener? Are you struggling with conversation in the face of disagreement? Join us for a casual conversation on how

to have a conversation! Real life happens; let’s be ready.

The Friends of the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library
Monday, January 12th
1:15-2:15
Join us for the monthly meeting!

NEW! Pearle’s Genealogy Group
Monday, January, 12th
4:00-5:30
Let’s regrow our genealogy group! Join us in the Local History Room on the second Monday of every month. Facilitated by professional genealogist Patricia St. Marie

The Missing Piece Puzzle Race
Monday, January 12th
6:00-7:30
Teams of four will compete against each other with the ultimate goal of completing a puzzle faster than the other teams. The first team to assemble the puzzle wins!
Don’t have enough for a team? Don’t worry, we will match you up! Registration is required

Rope Flow with Kate
Thursday, January 15th
6:00- 7:00
Rope flow is a low-impact movement practice where you spin a weighted rope in fluid, continuous patterns to improve mobility, coordination, and athletic timing, rather than jumping with it like a traditional jump rope. The practice involves using your whole body, particularly the spine and hips, to control the rope’s movement through a series of underhand and overhand figure-eights and other patterns, fostering a sense of play, rhythm, and a “flow state”. It serves as a form of full-body exercise and moving meditation, enhancing rotational strength and reducing stress. All equipment is supplied. Space limited to 10 people. Registration is required.

Create A Treasure Journal
Thursday, January 22nd
5:30-7:30
Happy Arts Events will be onsite to teach you various art journal making techniques to create your own unique and beautifully inspired keepsake or gift. Registration is required.

Crawford Library Book Group
Thursday, January 22nd
6:00-7:30
Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger
Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout one month prior to discussion.
No Registration Required.

“Cook the Book” Book Club
January 26th
6:00-7:00
Book: Every Day with Babs: 101 Family Friendly Dinners for Every Day of the Week by Barbara Costello
Pick one recipe from the book selected for the month, the dishes don’t have to be

complicated or fancy. Any recipe from the book is fair game, except alcoholic beverages-sorry! Prepare the recipe at home and share it at the library. We cannot reheat or keep food warm, so consider this when choosing your recipe.

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

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

Ginger & Spice
Saturday, January 31st
10:00-12:00
When it comes to herbal kitchen medicine, ginger has a versatility that runs a close second to garlic. Come explore this powerful root (or rhizome), see why it helps issues from arthritis, nausea, helps fight colds and flu, and so much more! Taste some warm ginger-aide, help prepare a group batch of ginger-syrup, and even try your hand at making a simple ginger poultice that eases cramps or stomach tension!
Presented by Christine Leo, M. Ed.

This program is sponsored by the Dudley Agricultural Commission & the Town of Dudley. Registration required.

KIDS EVENTS

Baby Open Play
Fridays in January-NO SESSION Friday, January 30th
10:00- 12:00
Open play for babies! Parents and caregivers can let babies play while getting to know others in the community. Come anytime between 10-12 or stay the whole time! No Registration Required
Guest Reader-Dudley Elementary Special Ed. Teacher-Mrs.Sgariglia
Monday, January 5th
6:00-7:00
Join us for a story and a craft!

Pre-K Power
Tuesdays in January-NO SESSION
January 20th
10:00-10:45
For ages 3-5 and their caregiver (siblings always welcome!). Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, moving our bodies to music, activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play!
No Registration needed.

Toddler Storytime
Wednesdays in January-NO SESSION
January 21st
10:00-10:45
Best for children 6 months - 36 months and their caregiver (siblings always welcome!). We’ll have fun with songs, fingerplays, a story, moving our bodies to music, shaker eggs, scarves, and bubbles! There will be time for free play and socialization, too.
No Registration needed.

Join The Chatty Chapter, our genre book group! Each month we read a different genre. January’s genre is a dark comedy: Sky Daddy by Kate Folk.

New England Ice Harvesting – Thursday, January 22nd at 6:30pm
Join us for this illustrated talk by Jane Henneidy as she provides a crystal-clear look into a process that was once commonplace for people in past centuries. The program includes examples from regional collections on food preservation methods used prior to ice boxes, the opportunities for cold cash from this seasonal industry, how activity invigorated food culture here and around the world, and with the advent of electrical refrigeration, the slow melting of the ice business. Jane Henneidy is a museum professional with more than thirty years of experience in caring for and sharing local history. She is the site manager for two 18th century farms in southern Rhode Island owned by Historic New England.

Programming for All Ages
The Dangerous Art of Chainsaw Sculpture! – Saturday, January 24th at 11:00am

A fun, interesting, interactive and engaging journey through the amazing career of world-famous Master Chainsaw Sculptor, Dr. “The Machine” Jesse Green (AMERICAN CHAINSAW on National Geographic Channel, ESPN/ Disney and more.) Through an incredible series of photos, the process of creating gigantic, death-defying works of art from trees is brought to life in a BIG way! Attendees will be able to ask questions throughout and fully participate in the discussion. You’ve never seen anything like it!

Children’s and Young Adult Programming
Play-Doh Storytime – Mondays at 10:30am
Join us for an engaging storytime filled with interactive stories and Play-Doh fun! Kids are invited to explore, squish and make new creations each week. This sensory-friendly program is perfect for young learners and their grown-ups.

Pokemon Club
Thursday, January 15th
6:00-6:45
Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon club! Each month we will have exciting crafts and activities! Best for ages 6 and up. No Registration Required. This is not a drop off program.

Yoga for Children
Friday, January 16th
10:00-10:45
Join certified Yoga instructor, Patricia (also known as Buffy), for a 45-minute yoga class for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers! Caregivers are encouraged to participate in the class, but it is not required. If you will be participating, please bring your own mat. (Yoga mats will be provided for the children.) Registration is required as space is limited.

Deb’s Sing & Swing-Winter Wonderland
Thursday, January 22nd
10:30-11:15
Pre-K Music & Movement offers a 45 minute 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!

Local 4 Life-Beneficial Bugs
Saturday, January 24th
10:30-11:30
“LESSONS AT THE LIBRARY” with Local 4 Life
Check out live earthworms, dress up like a ladybug, dance like a bee, and build a spider web with yarn, all while learning why these bugs are so helpful to us!
Hands-on educational programs for families with children ages 4-11 years old. Registration Required.

How to Draw Cute Animals for Tweens
Thursday, January 29th
6:00-6:45
Learn to draw animals using easy to follow, step-by-step instructions - then use your creativity to give them unique and funny personalities! We’ll be using Heegyum Kim’s book “Draw 62 Animals and Make Them Cute” so you’ll have lots of choices! Then take what you’ve learned to take your doodling to a whole new level!
This program is for children ages 6-12 only - no registration needed. This is not a drop-off program.

TEEN EVENTS
Dungeons & Dragons Game
Thursdays in January-NO SESSION
Thursday, January 1st
6:00-7:30
Ages 14-19 only
Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama?
Come play the world’s number one role playing game.

Creators Club – Mondays from 4:00-5:30 PM
We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your creativity to the test! Come explore our newly rebranded Monday night program: Creators Club! January’s theme is Clay Art.

Tiny Groovers – Tuesdays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for a new storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids’ tunes using while instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Busy Baby Storytime – Fridays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for Busy Baby Storytime! Babies and caregivers will enjoy rhymes, movement, and simple stories that build early literacy skills in a fun and playful way.

Tween Cupcake Wars – Thursday, January 15th at 5:30pm
Time for a cupcake battle! Kids ages 7-12 are invited to join our first-ever Cupcake Wars, competing in teams of two to decorate cupcakes based on a surprise theme. Anonymous judges will vote, and one duo will take home a prize! Due to limited supplies, registration is required.

Teen Cupcake Wars – Thursday, January 15th at 6:45pm
Time for a cupcake battle! Teens ages 13-18 are invited to join our first-ever Cupcake Wars, competing in teams of two to decorate cupcakes based on a surprise theme. Anonymous judges will vote, and one duo will take home a prize! Due to limited supplies, registration is required.

Pancakes with Penelope – Saturday, January 17th at 11:00am
You’re invited to a pancake breakfast with a very special guest – Penelope Rex! This lovable dinosaur from Ryan T. Higgins’ books is visiting the library for pancakes, stories, and fun. Each child will have the chance to take a photo with Penelope and enter our book raffle.

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2 Lake St., Webster
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Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
The Library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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

Adult Programming
Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm
The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. No pre-registration is required. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Library for All – Mondays and Fridays at 10am
Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers. Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Monday and Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the 4th week of the month is painting.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Tuesday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Tuesdays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room
Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal.

Yoga – Saturdays at 9:30am

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

Yoga Nidra with Jess – Fridays in January, at 8:15am; No Class on January 23rd
Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidra practice to start your day. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidra). This program takes place before the library officially opens. Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door. If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing.

Crafts with Kate: Intentional Letter Writing – Wednesday, January 21st at 6:00pm
Join Kate in an intentional letter writing workshop! Come in with a person in mind who will receive your letter. We’ll have all the materials you need to personalize your letter and envelope. You’ll have a little bit of time to write your letter but the bulk of the time will be spent decorating.

Adult Book Group – Wednesday, January 21st at 6:30pm
Join the adult book group for their monthly book discussion! This month we’re reading James by Percival Everett. This group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Copies of the book are always available at the circulation desk.

Computer Basics for Beginners – Thursday, January 22nd at 4:00pm
Come learn some computer basics with Assistant Director Evan Hale and Adult Services Librarian Jess Fontaine.

The Chatty Chapter Book Group – Thursday, January 22nd at 6:00pm

Booklovers’ Gourmet accepting submissions for Group Art Show

WEBSTER — Booklovers’ Gourmet in Webster invites all local artists to be part of the Annual Group Art Show in February. The theme is “Hearts,” and the show is open to all mediums & styles, but must feature “hearts” either manmade or in nature, literally or figuratively.

Drop off dates are Jan. 29-31 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. in person at 72 East Main St., Webster. An artists’ reception will take place on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2-4 p.m. with light refreshments. Free and open to the public.

The show will be on view in the cafe gallery Feb. 3-28 during normal business hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

There is a \$10 entry fee per artist, which will go towards a People’s Choice Award to be awarded at the end of the month, decided by votes from the public. One vote per person is allowed and must be made in store during the month of February.

Space is limited to 1 piece per artist. You may submit up to two pieces to be considered. Acceptance of work is at the sole discretion of Booklovers’ Gourmet.

Additional details & requirements: * Work may be in any medium including photography, watercolor, oil, acrylic,

drawings, prints, collage, fabric, mixed media, etc. *Dimensions must not exceed 20 inches in any direction * All work must be ready to hang on the wall, preferably with a wire * A 30 percent commission will be taken on any sales. Pricing is at the sole discretion of the artist.

For more information, email deb@booklovers-gourmet.com or call 508-949-6232.



“Heart Chakra,” a mixed media collage by Debra Horan.

Carl’s Oxford Diner supports Oxford Food Shelf



OXFORD — The Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, its volunteers and its families, thanks Carl’s Oxford Dinner, 291 Main St., for its recent donation of \$6467, the proceeds from its annual giant raffle to support the town’s food pantry. The raffle is truly a community effort, with prizes contributed by many local businesses, including gift baskets and gift cards.

The Oxford Food Shelf provides free supplemental grocery assistance to families living in Oxford. A client-choice food pantry, families choose the foods they need, including fresh vegetables and fruit, meats, fish, eggs and dairy, and non-perishable items such as cereals, pastas and canned goods.

Carl’s Oxford Diner’s donation will go a long way toward helping to restock the Food Shelf after a busy holiday season.

Located on the lower level of the Oxford Community Center on 4 Maple Rd. in Oxford, the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf is open on Thursdays at 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., except holidays. For more information, call 508-987-1062.

Financial donations may be mailed to the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, 4 Maple Rd., Oxford, MA 01540.

Illuminating Zion Lutheran’s outdoor chapel

OXFORD — When Arthur Siegmund built a new cross for Zion’s outdoor chapel, he had no idea how this rustic wooden creation would be transformed into a brilliant beacon of faith. Currently, more than one thousand twinkling lights shine through the forest and parking lot to instill a sense of hope and awe in people driving by the church at 70 Main St., Oxford. This glistening symbol of peace is the brainchild of Christine Costello. She and her family recently stayed with friends in Milford, Pa. Just a few doors down from their lodging, a sparkling cross on the front of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church beamed into the darkness. Chris and her husband Jay were inspired to adapt this idea to Zion’s church site. Jay, Chris, Jonathon Costello, and Isaac Gilliard, with advice from Bud Fischvogt and Paul Lougie, undertook the project on a cold Saturday, wrapping miniature lights round and round the cross’s four arms. The result is stunning! The cross will be illuminated sunset to sunrise, Advent until Lent, and once again throughout Easter week. Better than a “drive by” is time taken at dusk or dawn for quiet meditation and prayer in this sacred space. All are welcome.



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LEGALS

Docket No. WO25E0146PP
Petition to Partition Citation
(A.C.92A)
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Worcester Probate & Family Court
To Linda Berisha of Oxford and to all other persons interested.
A petition has been presented to said Court by Zenel Cazimi of Oxford in the County of Worcester representing that he hold as tenant in common an undivided 50% part or share of that certain land lying in Oxford in said County Worcester and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of the lot to be conveyed at a point on Clarence Drive; THENCE along a curve to the left with a radius of 278.10 feet a distance of 8.88 feet; THENCE proceeding west along a curve to the left with a radius of 825.00 feet a distance of 116.12 feet to a point; THENCE N. 48° 34’ 32” W. a distance of 323.69 feet to a point; THENCE N. 6° 23’ 41” E. a distance of 57.11 feet to a point; THENCE N. 86° 53’ 29” E. a distance of 171.49 feet to a point; THENCE S. 38° 40’ 51” E. a distance of 247.45 feet to the point of beginning. setting forth that he/ she desire that all the aforesaid described part of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than five hundred and fifty thousand (550,000) dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.
If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o’clock in the forenoon on the twenty fourth day of February 2026 the return day of this citation.
Witness, Kathryn M. Bailey, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-ninth day of December 2025.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
January 16, 2026
January 23, 2026
January 30, 2026

{SEAL}
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
25 SM 002886
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Brandi A. Reddick, as Proposed
Personal Representative of the
Estate of Richard M. Reddick a/k/a
Richard Reddick
Brandi A. Reddick
Jesslyn Elizabeth Reddick a/k/a
Valentine Eliza Reddick
The Heirs, Devisees and Legal
Representatives of the Estate of
Richard M. Reddick a/k/a Richard
Reddick
Robert J. Cotton, Esq., as Guardian
ad Litem for Valentine E. Reddick
a/k/a Jesslyn Elizabeth Reddick
a/k/a Valentine Eliza Reddick
Michelle L. Reddick a/k/a Michelle
Lyn Houle
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901
(*et seq*):
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Dudley, numbered 192 Southbridge Road**, given by **Richard M. Reddick w/s/a Richard Reddick to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Norwich Commercial Group, Inc. D/B/A Norcom Mortgage, its successors and assigns**, dated **November 6, 2012, and recorded in Worcester County {Worcester District} Registry of Deeds in Book 49917, Page 312, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated May 25, 2021, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 65688, Page 27**, 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 02/23/2026 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 1/8/2026
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson Recorder
January 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family
Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO25P4097GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
Hunter Mason Miller
of Webster, MA
Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed by on 11/25/2025 by Arleen May Chaplin of Monson, MA Kenneth Thomas Chaplin Sr of Monson, MA will be held 02/04/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**
2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
4. 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.

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

Register of Probate
January 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Essex Probate and Family Court
36 Federal Street
Salem MA, 01970
Docket No. S24P0282GD
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR RESIGNATION OF A
GUARDIAN OF AN
INCAPACITATED PERSON
In the matter of:
Michael L Agosta
Of: Lawrence, MA
RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by
Velma J Brinson of Hyde Park, MA in the above captioned matter alleging requesting that the court: Accept the Resignation of the Guardian
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/ or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/ or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **1/26/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Frances M. Giordano, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 22, 2025
Pamela Casey O’Brien
Register of Probate
January 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No.WO26P0006EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Frances T Lindsay
Date of Death: 02/16/2002

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Mark J Lindsay of Charlton MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Mark J Lindsay of Charlton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/03/2026**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date:January 05, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
January 16, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
26 SM 000017
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Meylin Avelar; Angel R. Villalta a/k/a Angel Villata
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): New American Funding, LLC f/k/a Broker Solutions, Inc. d/b/a New American Funding
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Dudley, numbered 129 Corbin Road, given by Meylin Avelar and Angel R Villalta to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for New American Funding, LLC, dated July 27, 2023, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 69440, Page 292, 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 February 16, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on January 5, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
January 16, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO25P4387EA
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate Of:
Joseph Thomas Sterczala
Also Known As: Joseph Sterczala
Date of Death: September 25, 2025

To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of **Diane M Cowes of Shrewsbury MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Diane M Cowes of Shrewsbury MA has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
January 16, 2026

ASSEMBLY
continued from page A1

day is Nov. 3. Saint Martin de Porres is remembered for his humility, compassion, and service—especially to the poor and the sick—and for treating every person with dignity. Students are encouraged to follow his example by choosing kindness, helping others, and showing respect in their

words and actions each day. The assembly concluded with a spirited, school-wide activity that added an extra layer of fun and camaraderie: a friendly gym “snow-ball fight.” Classes competed in timed rounds, staying on their own side of the court while tossing rolled-up white socks—“snowballs”—back and forth. The class with the fewest snowballs on its side at the end of 60 seconds won the round.

Teachers joined the competition as well, adding to the laughter and school spirit. Saint Joseph School’s monthly assemblies are intentionally designed to balance celebration with formation—recognizing students, reinforcing values, and creating joyful traditions that help students feel connected, supported, and proud to be part of the SJS community.

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Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need.
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CENTURY TOOL
COMPANY, INC.
PRECISION MACHINING
CenturyToolUSA.com

Up to ***\$10,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!**

Employment Type: Full-Time

Shift: 1st Shift (Mon-Thurs: 6am-3:30pm, Fri: 6am-10am)

About the Role:
Century Tool is seeking experienced, highly qualified Tool Makers and CNC Machinists to join our precision manufacturing team. This position is ideal for individuals who excel in producing tight-tolerance components in a job shop atmosphere and want to contribute to a high performance, team oriented environment.

What We Offer:

- \$10,000 sign-on bonus for qualified personnel, (see Sign-on Bonus Eligibility below).
- Top hourly rate based on experience
- BC/BS PPO Medical, dental and vision insurance
- 401k
- Paid time off and holidays
- Climate-controlled facility
- Annual Bonus

Qualifications:

- Minimum 5-10 years of Tool Making and/or CNC machining experience (milling, turning, surface grinding)
- Strong understanding of G-code, tooling, and machining best practices
- Ability to read and interpret technical drawings
- Experience with Fanuc, ProtoTrak, and Hurco controls preferred
- Demonstrates commitment to quality, safety, and continuous improvement

Sign-On Bonus Eligibility:
The \$10,000 sign-on bonus is available to candidates who meet experience and skill requirements and successfully complete onboarding milestones. Bonus is paid in structured installments over the first year of employment.

HOW TO APPLY:
Submit your resume to centurytool@centurytoolcompany.com or contact (860) 923-9523. Qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview and facility tour.



Community Connection

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The Homeowners Plumber, SINCE 1988
Faucets, Toilets, Pipe Repair, Garbage Disposals, Sinks, Vanities, Shower Valves, Outside Hose Connections, New Kitchen Sink Strainers and Undersink Re-Pipes, Sump Pumps, Sink Drain Cleaning,
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Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL
0-50	\$4.99	301-500	\$2.25
50-75	\$3.49	500 PLUS	\$2.10
76-150	\$2.95	Duel Fuel	\$3.75
151-300	\$2.55	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00

Tanks Filled to 80%
Driver Discretion

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
Monday price 1/12/26 was **\$3.19** per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT
www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change



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East Brookfield, Massachusetts



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www.crookedcreekfarmma.org

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!



Kavon is a sweet, friendly, and outgoing young boy with a warm and engaging personality. He loves drawing, watching cartoons, playing games on his tablet, spending time in the water, and kicking around a soccer ball. Kavon is personable and funny, with a great sense of humor that helps him build strong connections with those around him. He is also very responsible and considerate—often reminding his peers to push in their chairs or turn off the water after using the sink. Always ready to lend a helping hand, Kavon enjoys being supportive and kind to his friends. Kavon likes going to school and is eager to learn new things. His favorite subjects are science and art, where he gets to explore, experiment, and be creative.

Kavon
Age 12
Registration # 8878

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/21189474869>

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

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





25 ELM STREET | SOUTHBRIDGE, MA



9,536-SF HISTORIC OFFICE BUILDING FOR SALE



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



- Listing price: \$450,000
- Building size: 9,536 SF
- Lot size: 13,939 SF
- Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
- Basement: partial | Unfinished









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

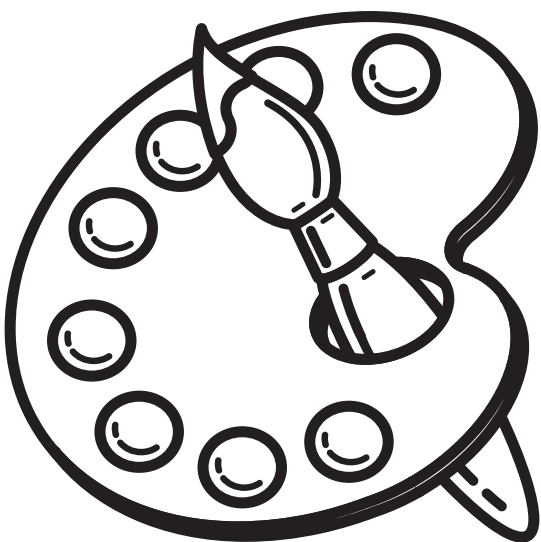


JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President
508-868-3765
jdglickman@glickmankovago.com



Creative Coloring

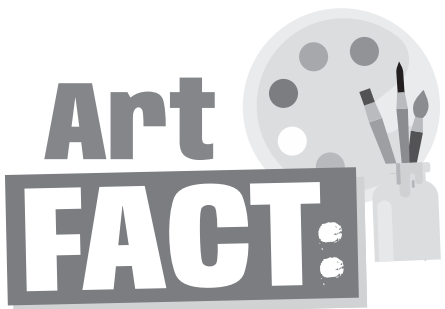
Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



1909: Ernest Shackleton and his expedition find the magnetic South Pole.

1920: The League of Nations holds its first council meeting in Paris, France.

1969: Soviet spacecraft Soyuz 4 and Soyuz 5 perform the first-ever docking of crewed spacecraft in orbit.



Various artistic activities can be considered hobbies, including this pastime that involves clay.

Answer: Pottery

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

FCART

6	2	1	7	3

TIGNTINK

	5		3	3			

ISTRAT

1	2			4	3

NTIPA

				3

1	2	3	4

		D	
1	5		

6	2	1	7	3	4	

Answer: Arts and crafts

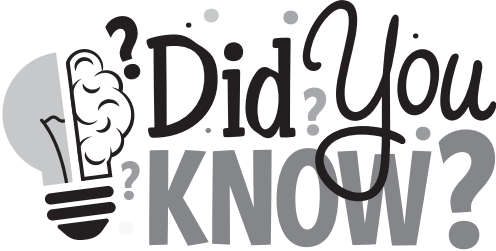


NICHE

a specialized segment of the market



English: Hobby
Spanish: Pasatiempo
Italian: Passatempo
French: Passe-temps
German: Zeitvertreib



Hobbies have many benefits, including reducing stress, improving mood, fostering social connections, and encouraging community involvement.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Sewing machine

SUDOKU

1	8							3
		3	6		7			8
	5					7		
7		1			2	3		
			1		9		2	
			4		3		9	
	3				8		6	
5		4	9					

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	7	2	5	4	3	6	8	1
1	6	8	3	1	5	7	4	9
5	4	6	8	1	7	2	3	9
2	6	5	4	8	3	1	9	7
3	4	8	1	7	9	5	2	6
7	9	1	5	6	2	3	8	4
6	5	9	8	3	1	7	4	2
4	2	3	6	5	7	9	1	8
1	8	7	2	9	4	6	5	3

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

RESOLUTIONS WORD SEARCH

H A B I T J T L A B E P B C T L P A R J
M H J P E S R M B C L Y H S A S B U G V
I E C Y R P A N O A H I F C T C O U E E
U B W C R R N D N T N I F O G H A S D G
N I O H O T S F Y G I M E O I E C W C C
O M B F M T F D E P P V I V C N A I R D
I P J N T E O T A E W P A N E U I U I C
T R E P G N R N C N P E R T D M S I R N
N O C J N O M E C I L R F O I S E P O O
E V T M S T A M O T A S S L G O E N B I
T E I V N S T T U U U I A V A R N T T T
N M V I O E I I N O E S C M G O E I T A
I E E S I L O M T R N T I T E A G S A N
C N H I T I N M A Y E E W C C V B S S I
A T O O A M V O B V R N P R O M I S E M
G C A N R C S C I S T C E T G B U R L R
G Y A U I I U Y L Y Y E D C M B T V P E
I J P C P W H D I S C I P L I N E B N T
U U J O S G W G T Y N E Y E D I E J O E
H R G L A A M U Y M H J E F P T O R C D

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ACCOUNTABILITY
ACHIEVEMENT
ASPIRATION
CHANGE
COMMITMENT
DETERMINATION
DISCIPLINE
FOCUS
GOAL
HABIT
IMPROVEMENT
INTENTION
MILESTONE
MINDSET
MOTIVATION
OBJECTIVE
PERSISTENCE
PLAN
PROGRESS
PROMISE
RENEWAL
ROUTINE
TRANSFORMATION
VISION



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Featured Listing

DUDLEY - 13 OXFORD AVE

2 -FAMILY offers 2,354 SF of living area! 2 Large Apartments, 5 Spacious Rms, 2 BRs, 1 Bath each. Beautiful grand front entry foyer with the charm of yesteryear! double French doors & other unique features. Plenty of Natural light that flows into these apartments! 2nd flr apt has a private enclosed rear entry with it's own outside covered porch. Updates were done to electric & roof to accommodate Solar Panels. Property was family occupied \$379,900.

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

Featured New

*Webster Lake Waterfront Listing!!
On Indian Point # 10 "Private Rd"*



ASTOUNDING Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! Sun drenched from early morning sunrise till sunset! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! Recent Kitchen & Bath! Primary Bedroom w/walk-in closet. Hardwood Floors. 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$ 900,000.

Two decades ago, Hope Real Estate Group opened its doors with a simple mission: to serve our community by helping our Clients navigate the real estate market!

As we celebrate 20 years of success, we wish to express our sincere gratitude for the support of our amazing Clients ~
Past, Present & Future & the Communities we serve in MA, CT & RI!

Here's to another year!
Best wishes from all of us
at Hope Real Estate Group!



WEBSTER - 24 COOPER RD

NEW CONSTRUCTION Craftsman Style Home! Tucked away on Cooper Rd, Webster Lake w/Access at Lakeside Beach/ Boat Ramp. 3rd of 4 Homes being built at this Site. Offers 2,155 SF +/- of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 9' Ceilings. Wood Flooring Throughout w/Ceramic Tile Floors in the Baths. Spacious Main BR Suite w/Walk-in Closet & Private Full Bath, Double-Sink Vanity! Finished Lower level walkout w/Slider. Basement-rough plumbed Central AC! Garage \$649,900.

WEBSTER - 19 FIRST STREET



Bring an open mind to this unique property & let your creative design ideas flow! This one level 1,040 SF, 3 BR home is reminiscent of an English Country Cottage! It evokes a cozy, rustic, lived-in vibe. The overall aesthetic is one of practical comfort, collected charm and a relaxed, slightly whimsical atmosphere. Key characteristics include spacious rooms, hardwood floors, a primary BR with sliders to a very private deck, retractable awnings, replacement windows, etc. Move right in!
\$304,900

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



WEBSTER LAKE
WATERFRONT LISTING! KILLDEER RD
SORRY, SOLD!



Webster Lake Waterfront - 31 Bayview!!
SORRY, SOLD!



Webster Lake - 302 Killdeer Island
SORRY, SOLD!

Renovated + move-in ready lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open Kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Primary suite w/private bath! 2 add'l bedrooms, 2nd Full bath. Lower level family room w/walkout to water. Wraparound deck, new vinyl railings, terraced yard, sandy beach, professional landscaping. Many updates
\$775,000

Webster Lake Waterfront
8 Long Island
Beautifully Updated Circa 1890s Classic Antique Island Cottage, with Rare Boat House Included! Extremely Unique, Clean & Well Maintained, Modern Conveniences w/the Charm of Yesteryear! 1,240 SF, 6 Rms, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, Hardwood Floors! Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Stove, Wrap-Around Screened Porch, Lg Outbuilding w/Full Bath/Showers/Laundry & Workshop. Patio! Town Wtr/Swr + Private Well for Outdoor &/or Off-Season Water Use! 14,300 SF +/- Level Lot w/100+ of Shoreline.
\$595,000

Mortgage's Foreclosure AUCTION

107 Highfield Dr., Southbridge, MA
1,300± sf, 2BR, 2BA Ranch on .31± Acres
In "Pleasant Hills Estates" (55+)
Monday, January 26 at 11am On-site
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Park Avenue School Faculty Spotlight

WEBSTER — Each year, Park Avenue is filled with meaningful learning experiences — made possible by the dedication, creativity, and commitment of our incredible staff. This week, we are proud to highlight three exceptional members of our PAE team: Kim Theriault (STEM Teacher), Rebecca Pasceri (EL Teacher), and Danielle Calnan (First Grade Teacher).

Kim Theriault, STEM Teacher, is known for her innovation, leadership, and unwavering advocacy for students. She has worked tirelessly to bring virtual reality experiences into our school, creating engaging, hands-on learning opportunities that excite and inspire students. Her fresh and forward-thinking approach brings creativity and innovation to STEM instruction. A respected leader among her peers, she is deeply valued by colleagues and loved by students.

As one colleague shared, “Kim is always pushing us to think differently and more creatively — her ideas elevate our work and truly benefit students.”

Theriault’s dedication, creativity, and leadership make her an invaluable member of the Park Avenue team.

Rebecca Pasceri, EL Teacher, is known for her expertise, high expectations, and exceptional ability to connect with students. She is a fantastic EL teacher whose knowledge extends well beyond her years, and her skill is evident in her



Rebecca Pasceri (EL Teacher), Kim Theriault (Stem teacher) and Danielle Calnan (1st Grade)

Courtesy

thoughtful instruction and student-centered approach. Colleagues consistently turn to her for guidance and advice, valuing her insight and professionalism. She holds strong expectations while providing the support students need to succeed, creating an environment where students feel both challenged and cared for.

As one colleague shared, “Rebecca’s knowledge and high standards push everyone to be better — she is a true asset to our team.”

Her impact is felt across our school community.

Danielle Calnan, First Grade Teacher, is known for her gentle leadership, warmth, and the strong relationships she builds with her students. Calnan is a breath of fresh air at Park Avenue, creating a kind and nurturing classroom community where students feel safe, valued, and truly known. She balances high expectations with compassion, giving students the breathing room they need to take risks, learn from mistakes, and grow with confidence. Calnan excels at building meaningful relationships with children, and her students absolutely adore her.

As one colleague shared, “Danielle has a natural way of connecting with students — her classroom feels calm, caring, and full of joy.”

Her dedication and kindness make her an invaluable part of our school family.

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