Auburn News

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Friday, November 13, 2026

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Park Avenue Elementary School receives award for serving breakfast to at least 80 percent of Students

WEBSTER — The Eos Foundation has announced that Park Avenue Elementary School is one of 145 schools across Massachusetts that will receive a 2026 Healthy

Start Award for serving school breakfast to least 80 percent of students. Each recognized school will receive a $500 unrestricted award, totaling more than $70,000 in funding distributed across the Commonwealth.

Park Avenue Elementary School is the only Webster Public School to receive this honor and utilize Breakfast in the Classroom, an Eos-supported model that incorporates breakfast into the school day and has been shown to significantly increase participation.

"Massachusetts is one of only nine states that has passed universal free school meals for all K-12 students, allowing us to ensure that every child begins the school day nourished and able to focus," said Andrea Silbert, President of the Eos Foundation.

"Schools which provide breakfast in the classroom typically experience twice the level of student participation than before the bell school cafeteria programs. We want to celebrate the principals, teachers, school nutrition professionals, custodial staff, and entire school communities who make that possible, and highlight strategies that can help more schools achieve similar results."

Massachusetts has provided universal free meals to all students since 2023, but breakfast participation is less than half of lunch participation statewide. According to the latest data from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, an average of 588,654 students ate school lunch each day in fall 2025, compared to 291,792 students who ate school breakfast, leaving nearly 300,000 kids missing out on the meal daily. At a time when

Turn To AWARD *page* A10



Courtesy

Oxford Middle School recognizes students each month who exemplify our Be The 3 goals of Respect, Responsibility, and Safety as well as showing that attendance matters, displaying citizenship, and showing growth in a variety of ways. This month, OMS celebrates Zoe Dunn, Bennett Harding, Keira Hryzan, Audrey Buffum, Mackenzie Olds as OMS October Students of the Month.

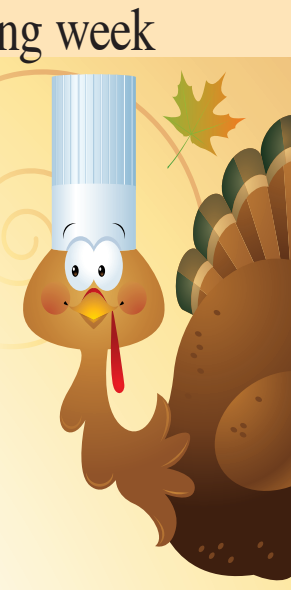
Dudley Conservation Land Trust announces hunting ban for newly acquired properties

DUDLEY — The Dudley Conservation Land Trust (DCLT) today announced that hunting, trapping, the use of bows and arrows or crossbows, and the discharge of firearms are strictly prohibited at its two newest properties: the 23-acre Antos Farm in Dudley (Marsh Road) and the 21.33-acre Kulisa-Tierney Preserve in Oxford (Whiting Road).

Volunteers are actively installing boundary signs and conducting regular patrols. Patrols were recently heightened after DCLT stewards discovered significant damage to a mature tree at the Kulisa-Tierney Preserve, where giant metal bolts had been driven into the trunk to support an

Turn To BAN *page* A10

Early deadlines for Thanksgiving week



With the offices of the Auburn News closing Thursday, Nov. 26 in observance of Thanksgiving, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week has been moved up to Thursday, Nov. 18 at 4 p.m.

Submissions can be e-mailed to news@stonebridgepress.news.

The staff of the Auburn News thanks our readers for their cooperation with this change in our usual schedule, and wishes one and all a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Dudley Town Hall to open for Senior Center activities on Tuesdays and Wednesdays



DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Selectmen voted Monday, Nov. 2, to allow public access to Town Hall on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for Senior Center activities.

While Town Hall will be accessible to those attending Senior Center programs on the first floor, access to municipal offices on the second and third floors will remain closed to the public.

Under the revised arrangement, Town Hall doors will be unlocked to accommodate Senior Center programs, such as pitch league, which begins at 1 p.m. on Tuesdays.

The Selectmen's Office will coordinate with the Senior Center Director to provide access for additional activities that may be scheduled on either day, while maintaining the Town Hall office closures implemented Oct. 20 in response to staffing and budget constraints.

The Board of Selectmen's decision to close Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week followed the Sept. 29 Special Election, in which voters rejected a proposed Proposition 2½ override earmarked for public safety departments.

Town Hall staffing was reduced through layoffs, the elimination of some vacant positions and by not filling other vacant positions. As a result of these reductions, the need for immediate cuts in the Police, Fire and Highway Departments has been put on hold, for now.

The vacant Town Hall positions are:

Town Accountant: vacant; interim outsourced.

Assistant Town Accountant: vacant, unfunded.

Assistant Treasurer: vacant as of Nov. 6.

Assessor Clerk: vacant, partially funded.

Water/Sewer Administrative Assistant: vacant, partially funded.

Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen: vacant, unfunded.

Treasurer/Collector's Office Clerk: vacant; unfunded.

Highway Administrative Assistant/IT/Cable Access Administrative Assistant: vacant, partially funded.

Given current staffing and budget limitations, closing the administrative offices to the public two days each week is necessary to give remaining office staff with uninterrupted time to perform the duties previously handled by employees in positions that are now vacant.

For additional information, visit www.dudleyma.gov.

Oxford invites community to celebrate the season at Holiday Lights Parade & Tree Lighting

OXFORD — The magic of the holiday season is returning to Oxford, and residents of all ages are invited to join in a festive evening of community spirit, holiday cheer, and family fun.

The Oxford Fire Department and Oxford Community Center are excited to announce the 2026 Holiday Lights Parade and Bandstand Tree Lighting, taking place on Sunday, Dec. 6.

The holiday festivities begin with the Holiday Lights Parade, stepping off at 5 p.m. from the North Fire Station, located at 656 Main St., North Oxford. Decorated emergency and DPW vehicles, illuminated floats, community groups, and holiday characters will travel along Main Street before arriving at the Town Common Bandstand at Joslin Park, 352 Main St., for the annual tree lighting celebration.

Residents wishing to watch the parade along the route are encouraged to take advantage of public parking available at:

Oxford Middle School

DPW Offices, 450 Main St.

Prior to the parade, families are invited to gather on the Town Common to enjoy holiday music, cookies, and hot chocolate provided with support from the Oxford Police Association while awaiting a special arrival from Santa and Mrs. Claus. Guests will have the opportunity to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, and other favorite holiday characters, and capture memorable holiday photos.

For those attending the tree lighting festivities on the Common, downtown parking will be available at:

Town Hall

Oxford Community Center (parking for parade floats and spectators)

Handicapped parking only will be available in the Paradis-Givner lot.

Community participation

Turn To HOLIDAY *page* A10

PET of the WEEK



BAYPATH
Humane Society of Hopkinton

Meet Roo!

Roo is a stunning, incredibly smart girl who forms strong bonds with the people she trusts. Once you're in her circle, she's affectionate, silly, playful, and loves snuggles, pets, and belly rubs. Her foster family describes her as simply "so easy to love."
Roo is active, food motivated, and loves to learn. She already knows several cues and has been doing great with clicker training and positive reinforcement. She's also a toy fanatic who loves balls, sticks, rope toys, puzzles, and zoomies. And her absolute favorite? Water! Give Roo a kiddie pool and she'll leap right in, chase her toys, and even blow bubbles underwater while fishing for a ball.
Roo is looking for a quiet, adult-only home with an experienced adopter who can give her structure, predictability, and time to build trust. She can be sensitive and reactive to unfamiliar people, dogs, sounds, and movement, so a home with few visitors and continued training will help her thrive.
Roo is a true homebody who is happiest enjoying the comfort and predictability of her own space, rather than joining her family for trips, outings, or travel. She is fully house trained and would love a fenced yard where she can safely run and play. Roo needs to be the only pet in her home, with no dogs or cats.
Roo isn't looking for everyone—she's looking for her people. For someone willing to earn her trust, this special girl has so much love, laughter, and personality to share.

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Auburn Historical Society and Museum to host Veterans Day remembrance open house

AUBURN — The Auburn Historical Society and Museum will have an open house to honor Veterans instead of a monthly meeting on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Museum, 41 South St.

Military exhibits placed throughout the museum will include uniforms that have a connection to Auburn residents and may have a mini biography with them. There will be military equipment such as ammunition casings, practice bomb, pistols and rifles. Personal items include World War I toiletry kit, instruments used to pass the time, military missal book, and a army navy service book. Letters to and from the home front with one special embroidery done to "my sweetheart" with beautiful detailing. The scrapbooks of articles and pictures from the newspapers which reported on the men and what they were doing or where they were going or those who didn't make it home. Some of the documents include copies of draft cards, discharge orders, and muster rolls.

Some veterans came from a long line of family members who served their country over several generations, like in the Legasey family. William Francis Legasey Sr. was born Oct. 1, 1872, to George J. and Mary E. Kenneway Legasey. He served in World War I as a S2/C2-NI class, which means Seaman Second Class Non-Commissioned. This indicates that William did not specialize in a specific rating or job within the Navy. This is the only information that could be found regarding his service according to his grave marker.

William Francis, Jr. enlisted in the Navy in November 1942 and served in World War II and it is his uniform that the Auburn Historical Museum will have on display. He was a Junior Electricians Mate Third Class. He was stationed on the USS Bangust in the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre and was honorably discharged March 1946.

The women are included with pictures of Carrie Guy Jacox, Pauline McIlvane and Phyllis Gallant, who has the Post Road Cane for being the oldest resident in town. There is also an exhibit case showing what the "Warriors of the Home Front" did while the men were away. There was the Auburn Air Wardens of WWII that patrolled the streets, especially at night to ensure the blackout rules were followed. They are Civil Defense helmets, official first aide kit, cards to identify aircraft flying overhead, and a picture of the Auburn Airport Reserve Corp c. 1940.

There is also the "Veterans' Project" database still available to enter family members and be apart of the those who served especially from Auburn that future generations can search for. The museum is always looking for donations to enlarge and enhance the collection and will be welcome on this day.

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

Webster Police Log

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Nov. 1-7.

A 58-year-old male from Killingly, Conn. was arrested on Nov. 1 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Krystal Jean Augusto, age 39, of Waltham was arrested on Nov. 1 in connection with multiple warrants.

Adam Garrette, age 37, of Spencer was arrested on Nov. 1 for Possession of a Class Drug (subsequent offense) and Operating Under the Influence of Drugs.

Nestor Jose Morales Rivera, age 46, of Webster was arrested on Nov. 2 in connection with a warrant.

A 21-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Nov. 3 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member, Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon, and Kidnapping.

Danielle Nicole Grubbs, age 35, of Philadelphia, Pa. was arrested on Nov. 4 for multiple counts of Uttering a False Check, Possession and/or Use of a False or Stolen RMV Document, Attempted Larceny By Check, multiple counts of Receiving Stolen Property, Larceny Over $1,200, and Identity Fraud.

A 47-year-old male whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Nov. 5 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

A 38-year-old male from Webster received a summons in lieu of arrest on Nov. 6 for simple Assault and Assault & Battery.

David D. Amour, age 55, of Charlton was arrested on Nov. 7 in connection with a warrant.

Real Estate

AUBURN

$440,000, 20 Pinehurst Ave, Catanese, Mare V, to Montero, Luis Ahinel.

$419,000, 42 Pakachoag St, Perry And Lords LLC, to Marquez, Isaul.

$400,000, 10 Riverside Dr, Augun, Brian, to Bradford, Mason R.

$285,000, 21 Arboretum Dr #3-C, Premo, Gary A, and Premo, Nadine A, to Mcgovern, Elizabeth R.

DUDLEY

$624,500, 10 Roberts Rd, Vershynin, Yuvgen, and Semkiv, Lyudmyla, to Laro, Kyle, and Laro, Shannon.

$335,000, 3 Prospect Ave, Sheldon, Susan M, to Parsneau, David, and Ware, Cheryl.

OXFORD

$520,000, 367 Main St, Byenes Inv Group LLC, to Oxford Village LLC.

$415,000, 22 Comins Rd, Leo P Belliveau Ret, and Belliveau, Leo Paul, to Aquino, Juan Carlos S.

$316,500, 38 Plantation Rd #38, Reynolds, Alison Anne, and Reynolds, Nicholas Willia, to Pellegrine, Isabella M.

WEBSTER

$1,125,000, 86 Bates Points Rd, Hill Guerard Ft, and Hill, Timothy B, to Quinn, Richard, and Quinn, Jennifer.

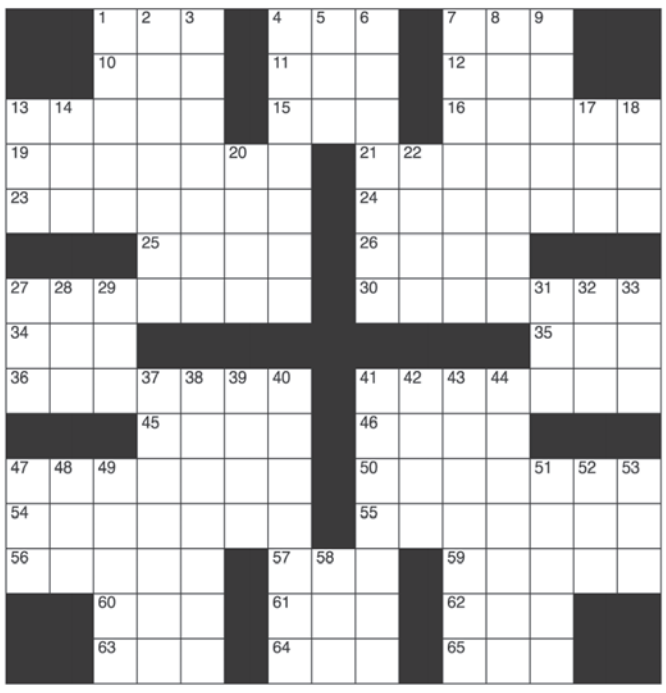
$652,000, 10 Eddy St, Chaput, David P, to Welsh, Jason.

$615,000, 17 Mount Pleasant St, Flibbert Lt, and Flibbert, David, to Murphy Capital LLC.

$550,000, 7 Ragina Ave, Desouza, Leandro Ferreira, to Freitas, Haziel Magalhaes.

$325,000, 10 Aldrich St, Graham, Thomas J, to Chacon, Tulio Leonel I.

$288,700, 40 Upper Gore Rd, Blouin, Lois J, to Sullivan, Christopher T, and Sullivan, Mary.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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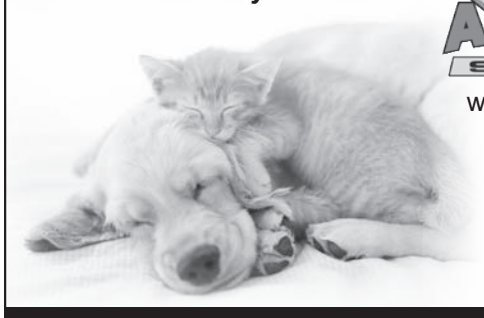
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Almanac

Open to Close

DUDLEY

Dudley Town Hall (508) 949-8000
Monday: 8:00 AM-6:30 PM (second floor offices), Tuesday-Thursday: 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Friday: 8:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Dudley Police Department (943-4411)
Staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week

Dudley Fire Department (949-8040)
Monday-Sunday ..... 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

OXFORD

Oxford Town Hall (508) 987-6027
Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk Hours{

Monday, Tues., Thurs ..... 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday ..... 9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday ..... 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Oxford Police Department (987-0156)
For emergencies, call 911

Oxford Fire Department (987-6012)
Monday-Friday ..... 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WEBSTER

Webster Town Hall (508) 949-3850
Office Hours:
Monday ..... 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday ..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Friday ..... 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Webster Police Department (943-1212)
For emergencies, call 911

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

Powerful drug prevention performance in Oxford Nov. 19

OXFORD — The Oxford Police Department, Fire Department, Board of Health and Oxford High School are joining forces with Drug Story Theater to present «Back to Life,» a powerful theatrical production designed to educate young people and their families about the dangers of recreational drug use and the potentially deadly consequences of fentanyl and other substances found in illicit drugs.

The performance will take place Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Oxford High School auditorium.

Based on a true story, "Back to Life" follows a seemingly ordinary night of partying that takes a tragic turn. The approximately 20-minute play is performed by young people participating in Drug Story Theater's treatment program, bringing firsthand perspectives on substance use and its consequences to the stage.

The production is intended to encourage candid conversations among students, parents and community members about the risks associated with experimenting with drugs, particularly the presence of fentanyl and xylazine in counterfeit pills and other illicit substances.

Organizers hope the presentation will help audiences understand that what might appear to be a relatively harmless experiment can have devastating consequences when drugs contain powerful substances that users may not realize they are taking.

Drug Story Theater's educational approach recognizes that adolescents naturally seek opportunities to take risks, socialize and experience pleasure. However, the organization emphasizes that today's illicit drug supply presents dangers that can turn experimentation into a life-threatening situation.

Following the performance, audience members will have an opportunity to participate in an interactive discussion with the young performers and Dr. Joseph Shrand, a nationally recognized expert in adolescent addiction.

The discussion will address the science behind adolescent addiction, the effects of fentanyl and xylazine, and practical steps families and communities can take to prevent overdose deaths.

An important component of the evening will be education about Narcan, the brand name for naloxone, a medication capable of reversing an opioid overdose.

Participants will learn how to recognize the signs of an overdose, understand how Narcan works and recognize the importance of making the medication readily available.

While Narcan can reverse the effects of opioids such as fentanyl, it does not reverse the effects of xylazine, a non-opioid sedative that may be mixed with illicit drugs. Nevertheless, naloxone should be administered when an opioid overdose is suspected, and emergency medical assistance should be sought immediately.

The Oxford Board of Health will provide Narcan free of charge to parents and guardians attending the evening performance.

Organizers also hope to reduce the stigma associated with carrying or administering Narcan, emphasizing that having access to the medication can mean the difference between life and death during an overdose emergency.

Drug Story Theater has presented "Back to Life" at public schools, universities and conferences throughout Massachusetts, reaching thousands of students and other audience members. The performances have been supported through earmarked funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Oxford presentation is being made possible through the cooperation of the Oxford Police Department, Oxford Fire Department, Oxford Board of Health and Oxford High School, along with municipal opioid remediation funds.

By combining live theater, personal experiences and medical expertise, the program seeks to give students and families information they can use to recognize dangerous situations, make informed decisions and potentially save lives.

For more information about Drug Story Theater and the upcoming presentation, visit www.drugstorytheater.org.

Webster sets five focus areas for Strategic Master Plan

WEBSTER — Webster's Strategic Master Plan Committee (SMPC) has finished gathering information and community feedback and is moving into the next phase of Plan development. Over the last several months, the Committee reviewed relevant town plans and evaluated Webster's strengths and opportunities for improvement. Local businesses, government leaders, and community members expressed their views about Webster and its future through focus groups, a community survey, and interviews.

Five areas on which to focus the Plan emerged from this effort. The Committee now is developing strategic goals and objectives for them. Thanks go to all who took the time to share their ideas with the SMPC.

Information gathered provided valuable information. In general, there was a call for Webster to make better use of its resources, strengthen its economy, and help people feel more connected to the community. Business participants expressed confidence in Webster's potential for economic growth, pointing to its affordability, regional location on a major highway, the Webster lake, existing businesses, and workforce resources. They called for strengthening business support, attracting investment and jobs, and improvements to commercial areas—particularly the Downtown. They also emphasized leadership, coordination and collaboration, well maintained and safe commercial areas, streamlined business processes, and consistent follow through. Community participants expressed a strong attachment to Webster, including its lake, history, public services, and local organizations. They identified opportunities for a more vibrant and appealing Downtown, better transportation connections, and more recreation and community participation. Their feedback emphasized building on what Webster already offers while making it easier for people to take part in community life. Government participants highlighted dedicated employees who respond to residents' needs and emphasized the ability to work across departments. They also identified challenges, including financial pressures, staffing needs, maintaining town buildings and property, and changing community needs. Setting realistic priorities that can be addressed, assigning clear responsibility for work, and tracking progress are important to them.

Based on the information gathered, the Committee agreed upon the following five strategic focus areas on which to center the plan:

Economic Development and Downtown Revitalization will include steps to strengthen the local economy, support businesses, and revitalize the Downtown.

Community Assets and Webster Identity will lay out strategies for enhancing and better utilizing those places that are key to our community, such as the lake and Memorial Beach, and steps to connect people to Webster.

Communication and Civic Participation will address how the town can best share information and help people learn about and participate in town decisions, government, and community life.

Financial Stability and Municipal Assets will examine ways to keep town finances on a sound footing and maintain and improve schools, municipal buildings, parks, and recreation areas.

Municipal Capacity and Accountable Implementation will emphasize governance, resources, and clear responsibilities needed to provide services, carry out the plan, and track progress. For each of these areas the Committee is drafting goals that describe what Webster wants to achieve and objectives that make those goals more specific. The Plan is on track to be completed at the end of February.

Community members can read the strategic planning background information and reports, as well as watch videos of the SMPC meetings on webster-ma.gov. Go to the pull down Government tab and select Strategic Master Plan Committee. Residents also can take the opportunity to sign up for town updates about town meetings and committees by going to "Notify Me."

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the month of October.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 8 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Strangulation or Suffocation.

Nathan R. Kubilis, age 38, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 10 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

Timothy J. Kuehn, age 42, of Southbridge was arrested on Oct. 11 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, a Marked Lanes Violation, and Wanton Destruction of Property.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 12 for Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and Assault on a Family or Household Member.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 15 in connection with a warrant of apprehension.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 18 for Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon and Withholding Evidence From a Criminal Proceeding.

Caleb Tower, age 18, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 22 for Assault & Battery on a Police Officer and Resisting Arrest.

Tyler Charles Ross, age 28, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 26 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor-second offense) and Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Lance Anthony Groh, Jr., age 23, of Putnam, Conn. was arrested on Oct. 31 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and Possession of an Open Container of Alcohol in a Motor Vehicle.

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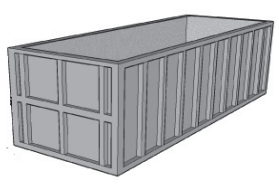
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Viewpoint

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

Stonebridge Press

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EDITORIAL

A healthy start is a foundation for learning

There are plenty of ways to measure success in a school. Test scores, graduation rates and academic achievements tend to receive the most attention. But sometimes, one of the most meaningful measures of success is something far more basic: making sure children have enough to eat.

That is why the recent recognition of Park Avenue Elementary School in Webster deserves attention and appreciation.

The school has been named one of 145 Massachusetts schools receiving a 2026 Healthy Start Award from the Eos Foundation, recognizing schools where at least 80 percent of students participate in the school breakfast program. Along with the recognition comes a $500 award, but the real accomplishment is what that participation rate represents.

It means that the overwhelming majority of children at Park Avenue Elementary are beginning their school day with a meal, giving them a better opportunity to concentrate, participate and learn.

For many adults, breakfast is something easily taken for granted. A bowl of cereal, a piece of toast or something grabbed on the way out the door is part of the morning routine. But for families juggling work schedules, transportation challenges and rising household expenses, mornings are not always so simple.

Some children arrive at school hungry because there was not enough food at home. Others may have food available but lack the time or opportunity to eat before leaving. Still others simply are not hungry when they first wake up, particularly when the school bus arrives early.

Whatever the reason, the result is the same. A hungry child faces an unnecessary obstacle before the first lesson even begins.

Massachusetts has made considerable progress by providing free school meals to all students, regardless of family income. Yet the numbers reveal that availability alone does not guarantee participation.

According to state education data cited by the Eos Foundation, nearly 589,000 students ate school lunch daily in fall 2025, while fewer than 292,000 participated in school breakfast. That enormous difference suggests that the challenge is not simply making meals affordable. It is making them accessible.

Park Avenue Elementary has addressed that challenge through its Breakfast in the Classroom program, which incorporates the morning meal into the school day rather than requiring students to arrive early enough to eat in the cafeteria.

It is a relatively straightforward change, but one with significant implications.

Children who depend on school transportation are no longer disadvantaged by bus schedules. Parents rushing to get to work have one less concern. Students who might otherwise feel uncomfortable participating in a breakfast program are able to eat alongside their classmates as part of an ordinary school routine.

Perhaps most importantly, the approach recognizes that proper nutrition is not separate from education. It is one of the conditions that makes education possible.

The achievement also reflects the efforts of people whose contributions often go unnoticed. School nutrition employees prepare and distribute the meals. Custodians help maintain clean and welcoming learning environments. Teachers accommodate breakfast within classroom routines. Administrators coordinate the many details necessary to make the program work. Their combined efforts deserve recognition.

There is also a broader lesson here for Webster, Dudley, Oxford and Auburn. Communities spend considerable time discussing school budgets, curriculum requirements, standardized testing and educational priorities. Those conversations are important, particularly when municipal resources are limited and taxpayers expect accountability.

But the fundamental needs of children must remain part of those discussions. No amount of educational technology or innovative instruction can fully compensate for a child who is distracted by hunger. Providing breakfast will not solve every challenge students face, but it removes one obstacle that schools have the ability to address.

The $500 award is a welcome acknowledgment of Park Avenue Elementary's accomplishment. More important, however, is the example the school provides for other communities seeking to improve participation in their own breakfast programs.

Success in education does not always require an expensive new initiative or a complicated solution. Sometimes it begins with recognizing a simple problem and finding a practical way to address it.

At Park Avenue Elementary School, that solution begins with breakfast. And for the children who benefit, it can make a meaningful difference throughout the school day.

Naval Aviators of Auburn in WWII: Aviation, rocketry, and Auburn, Part 3

BY HELEN POIRIER

AUBURN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Earlier this year, the Auburn Historical Society and Museum ran an article about the US Army Air Force and the progression to the US Air Force along with some of the men from Auburn who were part of both. The US Navy also has a Naval Aviation component. Glenn Curtiss was contracted by the US government to demonstrate that planes could be used with naval ships. In November of 1910 the cruiser USS Birmingham was anchored off the coast of Virginia when Eugene Ely, a pioneer aviator who was working with Curtiss, took off from the ship. The following January, Ely landed aboard the USS Pennsylvania in San Francisco Bay. The next day, US Navy Lieutenant Theodore G. Ellyson took off in a Curtiss "grass Cutter" plane from the nearby Curtiss School. He became the first recognized naval aviator in July 1911.

Captain Washinton Irving Chambers is regarded as the "Father of Naval Aviation" because of his contributions to the early development of the Navy aviation program. Chambers was born in 1856 in Kingsport, N.Y. He graduated from the US Naval Academy when he was 20 years old. He served in the Navy for 43 years. In those years he served as the first officer to oversee the aviation program from 1910-1913. He consulted and worked with Orville Wright, recruited the first naval aviators, established the training program, oversaw the budget for the program, purchased the first aircraft for the Navy, and recommended Pensacola, Fla. to be the first naval air station to be established in 1914.

Progress in the development of planes and aircraft carriers allowed naval aviation to become a decisive part of WWII at sea. In the Pacific the United State and Japan were dominate, and in the Atlantic, Great Britian, Germany, and the Soviet Union were the major participants with France and Italy as the supportive cast.

Some of the Auburn Naval aviators included Earl Stewart Carpenter Jr. He was born Oct. 8, 1923, in Providence, R.I. to Earl and Margaret H. Dott Carpenter. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts and attended Worcester College of Technology. He served as a Commander in the USN Aircore. This was related to air operations and logistics within the US Navy which shows how important having air support was in maritime missions. Earl was married to Janice E. Murray. He died March 3, 2004, at the age of 80.

Fenwick Hallowell was born in 1922 to William and Eunice J. Dunkerton Hallowell. At the time of his enlistment, Fenwick was an airplane mechanic at the old Coes Knife building in Worcester. According to Navy Muster Rolls, Fenwick enlisted in June 1942 and was sent to training school in Newport, R.I. Other trainings included an Air Technical Training Unit in Jacksonville Fla., and in Chicago, Ill. He was listed on the Intrepid in September 1943 which was a Essex-class aircraft carrier. The ship arrived at Pearl Harbor in January 1944, and was part of the invasion of the Marshall Islands. Fenwick served eight years in the Naval Air Corps. He died in 1956 in Florida and is buried in Miami Memorial Park Cemetery.

Lastly, Raymond A. Twarowski worked with Fenwick Hallowell, and they both enlisted together at the Boston Naval recruiting station in 1942. According to Ray's obituary, he "served in the Pacific theater for the duration of WWII. He was assigned to the USS Hornet aircraft carrier, flying missions in Grumman Avenger Torpedo Bombers, seeing action in Iwo Jima, Guam, Saipan, Manila Bay, Tinian, and New Guinea. During a mission in 1944, his plane was shot down near the Bonin Islands, and he survived afloat for 18 hours before being rescued. He was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal as well as the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service to the country."

Raymond was born Aug. 30, 1922, in Ipswich to Alexander and Helen Kosciemska Twarowiski. The family came to Auburn when Ray was about four years old. His father owned and operated the Red & White grocery store at the corner of Oxford and Boyce Streets for a while. After military life Ray worked for the McCrillis & Keep Insurance Agency. He served the Auburn Community on the Conservation Commission, trustee of the Auburn Public Library and was an active member in the Auburn Historical Society and the Rotary Club. He was a founding member of the Century Sportsman's Club and served as a firearms instructor for the Auburn Police Department.

If you are, or are related to a Veteran from Auburn, lived in Auburn, or have a connection to Auburn, we ask that you take a couple minutes to help us with this project and fill out a form, which can be found here: Auburn Veterans Project – https://forms.gle/mBbo65JjBD91yJHbA.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What did we just vote for?

To the Editor:

If this opinion is printed, it will be after the midterm elections. The Democrats had a great night. Trump didn't send in the military to stop voting, didn't halt the elections; all that talk was exactly that — talk.

My question to anyone reading this (in particular, a writer from Dudley who sends in his opinions week after week after week, as though what he is writing is fact more than just his own opinion): what did we all just vote for?

Question 1 : Expanding the public records law. Overwhelmingly voted as Yes. The state legislature has, for two years, resisted and avoided the 2024 voter passed (72 percent) legislative audit, and the Massachusetts House has already written and passed a bill that could supersede the results of question 1, with every Democrat except three voting in favor, all Republicans against. The bill proposes blocking state auditor Diana Dizoglio from taking them to court and limiting her investigative powers. The House Democrats pushed through a bill that would permanently constrain the power voters gave to the auditor to investigate the legislature.

Our writer recently railed against our own town officials for some of their decisions, and will almost certainly rail against Trump if he vetoes all Democrat led bills over the next two years. Will he be that quick to rail against the Democrats in Boston for ignoring what the voters wanted, or will he give them a free pass because, as he wrote, he is a proud Democrat?

Which brings me to Questions 5 and 6. 5 would have limited the amount the state could collect in taxes. Was voted No.. 6 is a natural resource fund, and was voted Yes. But the money that is supposed to go into this fund is subject to legislative appropriation. Essentially, with these results, the state can collect whatever it wants in taxes, and there is no guarantee any of it will go to Question 6, which voters approved of, along with their efforts to block the 2024 audit, and supersede question 1, voters just approved tax hikes for themselves , and there will be no way of knowing where the money went because the Democrat lawmakers will pass a law that pretty much says the voters/taxpayers have no business knowing.

Voted for what? The same, and now new Democrats keep getting elected over and over again in this state and with their actions show that whole campaign of affordability was just a ruse . Expect nothing to change with their unaccountable spending.

Quick fact: 60 percent of the crude oil running through U.S. pipelines is extracted domestically, the largest foreign supplier is Canada at 60-62 percent with Mexico second at roughly 7 percent. There is only about 8 percent of total U.S. crude imports coming from the Middle East. So if you voted Democrat because of gas prices, expect them to go higher as the newly elected and remaining democrats start passing laws on a state to state basis wanting to eliminate the use of all together. Then watch your electric bills as the aging and failing grid gets overwhelmed and blackouts become necessary, and higher taxes to repair it all. The estimated price tag for all the Democrat ideas: $49-$50 trillion over 10 years. Affordability will not be what the voters end up getting. An impeachment of Trump, followed by an impeachment of Vance, and the Democrats then install an un-elected president. And they cram through every piece of legislation that will make it impossible to ever get rid of them. That's something even the so-called fascist, Nazi, tyrannical, dictator Trump didn't even do. I guess that was all a ruse too.

Please don't take my word for it — look it up the information is easy enough to find. But please look it up before the democrats pass laws banning such information from the public. One of the possible reasons they seem so opposed to the A.I. data centers, A.I. makes it much easier to find the information.

John Giaquinto
Dudley

Put your finances in position for 2027



FINANCIAL FOCUS

DENNIS ANTONOPOULOS

As 2026 comes to a close, now is a good time to look for opportunities to strengthen your financial plan before the new year. A year-end review can help ensure your financial decisions remain aligned with your long-term goals, identify potential planning opportunities and help you enter 2027 with greater confidence.

Here are several planning opportunities:

Reflect on your progress. Start your review by evaluating how the past year impacted your long-term plan. Consider how any life changes may have affected your goals and update your strategies as necessary.

Consider your tax situation. Work with your financial advisor and tax professional to understand your tax situation and identify year-end opportunities that may benefit you. If you›re 73 or older, be sure to take any required minimum distributions (RMDs) if necessary.

Increase contributions to your savings goals. Consider increasing contributions to your health savings account (HSA), workplace retirement plan or, if you're saving for education, a 529 plan. These accounts can help build financial security and may offer tax advantages. Even small increases today can make a meaningful difference over time.

Maximize your impact. If giving to others is one of your goals, consider charitable giving or annual gifting strategies to help support the people and causes you care about while also providing potential tax benefits. And note that tax rules have changed for charitable donations: with a standard deduction, you can deduct up to $1,000 of cash donations ($2,000 for couples filing jointly) and if you itemize, you can only deduct aggregate donations that exceed 0.5 percent of your adjusted gross income, up to the applicable limit. These donations must be made to a qualified charitable organization.

Monitor your long-term strategy. If you haven›t done so this year, now is as good a time as any to review your portfolio for the year to make sure it is still in line with your goals, time horizon and comfort with risk. If need be, you can rebalance. You might also want to check beneficiaries on your financial accounts, investments and insurance policies, especially if your family or circumstances have changed.

Work with your professionals. Making necessary year-end moves in ways that benefit your situation can feel complicated. Your financial advisor and tax professional can help you identify opportunities and avoid pitfalls.

A few proactive steps before 2027 can help you enter the new year with greater confidence and a clearer understanding of where you stand financially. By reviewing your progress, evaluating tax and savings opportunities and confirming your long-term strategy remains on track, you can start the year focused on what matters most to you.

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

Letter submission policy

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

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

The trouble with being a regular

LANTERNS ALONG MAIN STREET

By CHARLES

There's a certain comfort in being a regular somewhere. A diner, a coffee shop, a barbershop, even the little store where you stop for a newspaper or a gallon of milk. After enough visits, the people behind the counter recognize your face, maybe remember your name, and occasionally know what you want before you open your mouth.

That last part can be a blessing or a curse.

I remember walking into a place one morning, fully intending to order something different for breakfast. I was feeling adventurous. Maybe I'd have an omelet instead of my usual eggs and toast. Perhaps even pancakes, although I wasn't quite ready to throw caution completely to the wind.

Before I could sit down, the woman behind the counter spotted me and announced, "The usual?"

Well, what was I supposed to say?

She seemed so pleased with herself for remembering, and I didn't have the heart to disappoint her. So I nodded, sat down and ate the same breakfast I'd been eating for years.

My brief flirtation with excitement was over before it began.

That's the thing about becoming a regular. Eventually, you develop a reputation, and once you've got one, people expect you to live up to it.

The fellow who always orders his coffee black had better not suddenly ask for cream and sugar. The woman who buys the same lottery ticket every Friday might cause genuine concern if she switches numbers. And heaven help the man who decides to get his hair cut somewhere different after visiting the same barber for 20 years. He'll have some explaining to do.

I suppose there's something old-fashioned about all this, and I mean that in a good way. We live in a world where so much of our business is conducted with machines. We order things from websites, pay bills without speaking to anybody and occasionally find ourselves arguing with automated telephone systems that insist they understand what we're saying.

They don't, by the way.

I've spent enough time shouting "representative!" into a telephone to know that artificial intelligence still has a few things to learn about human patience. That's why I appreciate walking into a familiar place and having an actual person look up and say hello.

It doesn't have to be a grand conversation. A little talk about the weather, a complaint about the price of groceries or a question about how the family is doing will do nicely. And there's usually a fair amount of gentle teasing involved.

If you show up wearing a new jacket, somebody's bound to ask whether you've come into money. If you arrive ten minutes later than usual, they'll want to know if you overslept. And if you happen to bring your wife along, they'll probably tell her something embarrassing about you.

That's the price of membership.

Of course, being a regular also means people notice when you're missing.

Years ago, I knew a fellow who stopped at the same place every morning on his way to work. Same time, same coffee, same seat if it was available. One morning, he didn't show up, and by the next day, somebody had started asking around to make sure he was all right.

Turned out he'd taken a couple of days off and gone fishing. He returned to find that his absence had caused more excitement than his presence ever did. We laughed about it, but I've thought about that story more than once. There's something reassuring about knowing that somewhere in the world, somebody might notice if you don't turn up. Not because you're important or famous or particularly interesting, but because you've become a familiar part of somebody else's day.

I think that's one of the things we sometimes overlook about small-town life. We talk about the big events, the celebrations and the changes taking place around us, but a good deal of what makes a place feel like home happens in those ordinary little encounters.

The cashier who remembers you prefer paper bags. The barber who asks about your wife. The waitress who knows you like your toast dark, even though you've never understood why that's such an unusual request.

None of these things will make the evening news, and that's probably as it should be. Still, they count for something.

As for me, I've decided that the next time somebody asks whether I want the usual, I'm going to surprise them.

I'm going to look them straight in the eye and order something completely different. Maybe pancakes. Although, now that I think about it, the eggs and toast are pretty good. And I wouldn't want anybody worrying that I'd lost my mind.

November Art Show at Booklovers' Gourmet spotlights two artistic journeys

WEBSTER — Booklovers' Gourmet, 72 East Main St., Webster, presents Jim Wilton and Laura Cenedella-Two Artistic Journeys in the cafe gallery from Nov. 3-28. A public reception will take place on Friday, Nov. 13 from 5-7 p.m. The show may be viewed during regular business hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, call 508-949-6232.

Jim and Laura's artwork complement one another seamlessly. Although each artist has traveled a different path, together they express their shared and individual experiences through photography and painting.

Jim R. Wilton is an award-winning, largely self-taught artist who has worked in painting and photography for many years with a strong focus on lighthouses, sunsets, outdoor scenes, landscapes, portraits and plein air work. He began photographing in 2008, which opened up digital photography and wider accessibility for his practice. Jim is active in the arts community as a member of Ruth Wells Arts Center and Blackstone Valley Art Association. He has self-published two coffee-table photo books and been featured in magazines and shares work on Facebook and Etsy. His photography has appeared on book covers and calendars. He has an overall passion for capturing nature and the intricacies of life.

Laura Cenedella is a painter and photographer based in Brookfield, Massachusetts. Her artistic journey began with a focus on art during high school. She has since developed into a semi self-taught artist. Laura's work has been recognized with numerous awards from organizations including the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Blackstone Valley Art Association and the Massasoit Art Guild. She is an active participant in the arts community in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Laura is a board member of the Blackstone Valley Art Association, member of the Massasoit Art Guild, member of the Worcester Art Museum and The Ruth Wells Center for the Arts. Her art has been exhibited in libraries across Massachusetts, a one-woman art show in 2025 and 2026 at the Ruth Wells Center for the Arts and for a second year in a row at the Worcester Art Museum.

While painting remains her primary passion, Cenedella is also an avid photographer. Her photographic work was featured in the Small Stones 2025 and 2026 Art Catalog. Laura works across various mediums, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, and pastels. She has created commissioned pieces such as murals and pet portraits. For more information and to see more of her work, please visit her social media pages on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.

Local students named to Nichols College Senior Advisory Council

DUDLEY — Nichols College President Bill Pieczynski is pleased to announce the members of the Nichols Senior Advisory Council (NSAC) for 2026-2027. The 14 accomplished seniors selected represent a range of experiences, perspectives and contributions to the Nichols community. They will meet monthly with the president and members of the President's Council, serving as an advisory group as the College plans for the future.

"The Nichols Senior Advisory Council is one of the opportunities I look forward to most each year. What makes NSAC particularly valuable is that it gives students a seat at the table while challenging them to think about Nichols beyond their individual experiences," said Pieczynski. "Their perspectives help inform our decisions and strengthen the College. At the same time, we're giving these students a firsthand look at leadership and decision-making. It's a two-way learning experience, and I'm excited to work with this year's cohort."

Upcoming NSAC meetings will include discussions on the College's new initiatives as well as broader trends and issues in higher education. In addition to helping Nichols enhance the overall experience for all members of its community, the meetings are also intended as an opportunity for students to further strengthen their communication and presentation skills, which are critical to career advancement.

Each year, one NSAC member also has the opportunity to be selected to serve a two-year term on the Nichols College Board of Trustees following graduation, providing an important continuation of student leadership at the College's highest level of governance.

The following local students were appointed to NSAC for 2026-2027:

Marc Dinary of Dudley

Kaiden Keddy of Webster

About Nichols College

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

Friends of the Auburn Library offers Storytelling for Grownups

AUBURN — The Friends of the Auburn Public Library announced their next fundraising event. The Friends will have 'Storytelling for Grownups' (like a 'Stories from the Stage' or 'Moth' type evening). Five (5) presenters will each tell a 20-minute story. These are stories about interesting, real life events, people and places. Planned speakers: Lewis Alderton, Michelle Weagle, Julianna Uresch, Sharon Eaton and Robert Tatro.

Storytelling helps us connect with others, boosting our imagination, memory, and empathy while weaving a tapestry of shared experiences and profound insights. Sharing stories increases empathy, making it easier to build relationships. Stories have the power to astonish us, make us laugh and cry, and open our hearts to the world.

The event is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 19 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. at The Pakachoag Center, 203 Pakachoag St., Auburn. Doors open at 5:30pm, admission is $20 and includes light refreshments (Cash, Check, PayPal 'Friends of Auburn Public Library'). Pre-registration is required by emailing to friendsofauburnplibrary@gmail.com to assure we have sufficient seating. The Friends also accept registrations by mailing to the Auburn Library in care of the Friends or dropping a registration in the cash box in the Library lobby. Registration forms are posted in the library lobby for your convenience. Cash, check to Friends of the Auburn Library or PayPal at friendsofauburnplibrary@gmail.com. Make sure the PayPal says Auburn, MA. We hope to see you then!

All proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to fund and enhance services, expand programs and purchase other extraordinary items not included in the library budget. Watch for all the upcoming Friends event dates on the Library website (http://auburnlibrary.org). You will also find notices in the Library lobby and postings on our Facebook group page 'Friends of the Auburn Public Library-Auburn Massachusetts'. Next month's meeting will be Monday, Nov. 16 at 5 p.m. in the Merriam Room. Please check the Library's calendar in case of a change. New volunteers are welcome! And please add your email to our contact list by emailing to friendsofauburnplibrary@gmail.com.

Please join us at our upcoming events. And consider becoming a volunteer because you can never have too many Friends!

First Congregational Church of Dudley hosting Christmas Fair

DUDLEY — Please join the First Congregational Church of Dudley (135 Center Rd.) for our annual Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This year's fair will include online and in-person auctions, quilt and basket raffles, craft vendors, a café, cookie corner, live entertainment, and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus.

The online auction will open on Nov. 20 at 5 p.m. and close on Dec. 5 at 10 am.. The live auction will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 1 p.m.

To register for the virtual auction, either copy/paste the link https://new.biddingowl.com/firstcongregationalchurchofdudley01571 into your Web browser or scan the QR code. Bidding Owl will ask for a private auction code. Use fccd2026 (case sensitive) to see the current items listed. Please email dudleyucc135@gmail.com with any questions.

We hope to see you there!

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Town of Sturbridge
Department of Public Works
Laborer / Equipment Operator

The Town of Sturbridge is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time position in the Department of Public Works Highway Division. The position will be filled as either a Laborer or Light Equipment Operator based on the successful candidate's experience, skills, and licensing. Competitive wages, union benefits, and advancement opportunities available.

For complete job details, qualifications, and application materials, visit:
www.sturbridge.gov/1200/Job-Volunteer-Opportunities

SHEPHERD HILL
Festival of Crafts
$1 OFF ADMISSION
Saturday, November 21
9 to 4
Regular Admission: $6
with Coupon: $5
Non-perishable items will be collected for the Charlton Dudley Food Pantry.

Grade 5 students at Saint Joseph share stories of the saints

WEBSTER — On Friday, Oct. 30, Saint Joseph School's fifth-grade students marked the approaching Solemnity of All Saints with presentations during the school's weekly Mass at Saint Joseph Basilica. The students had learned about the lives of saints and other important figures in the Church, then shared their chosen subjects with the school community.

Under the guidance of fifth-grade instructors Mrs. Susan Gallivan and Miss Norah Brennan, students explored how examples of holy men and women can inspire people to live with faith, courage, service, and compassion. Rev. Richard Polek, pastor and headmaster of Saint Joseph School, was the celebrant.

Students also took part in the liturgy. Addison Goulet, Maya Jackson, Kenny Maurer, Mila Androlewicz, Maksymilian Bujala, Callum Bergman, Jackson Lovett, and Nella Copland served as readers. Tamara Giteru, Logan Derry, Kelsey Cormier, Oliver Smith, Joanna Thrun, Oliver Delgaudio, Patrick Deptula, and Quincy Middleton led the Prayer of the Faithful. Olivia Perry, Olivia Guito, Paulina Piascik, and Keziah Anobah presented the offertory gifts.



Courtesy

Saint Joseph School's fifth-grade students gather with Rev. Richard Polek, pastor and headmaster, on the altar of Saint Joseph Basilica after sharing their All Saints presentations during Mass on Oct. 30.

Among Mrs. Gallivan's students, Mila Androlewicz portrayed Mary, Undoer of Knots; Avery Benson portrayed Pope Saint John Paul II; Callum Bergman portrayed Saint Damien of Molokai; Maksymilian Bujala portrayed Saint John Neumann; Nella Copland portrayed Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton; Oliver Delgaudio portrayed Saint René Goupil; Patrick Deptula portrayed Blessed Fulton J. Sheen; Olivia Guito portrayed Our Lady, Star of the Sea; Quincy Middleton portrayed Saint Joseph; Olivia Perry portrayed Our Lady of the Rosary; Oliver Smith portrayed Saint Junípero Serra; and Joanna Thrun portrayed Our Lady of Guadalupe.

In Miss Brennan's class, Jamarion Pierre portrayed Saint René Goupil; Jackson Lovett portrayed Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos; Logan Derry portrayed Saint Damien of Molokai; Kenny Maurer portrayed Saint John Lalande; Addison Goulet portrayed Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini; Kelsey Cormier portrayed Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne; Tamara Giteru portrayed Saint Marianne Cope; Paulina Piascik portrayed Saint Catherine of Bologna; Maya Jackson portrayed Saint Teresa of Ávila; Keziah Anobah portrayed Saint Rose of Lima; Edie portrayed Saint Hildegard of Bingen; and Amalina Khozami portrayed Dorothy Day.

The presentations helped students see that these stories are more than accounts of the past. They offer examples of faith and service that can guide people in their own lives. As the Saint Joseph School community prepared to celebrate All Saints Day, the fifth graders' work reminded everyone to keep learning from these examples and to put faith into action through daily acts of kindness and care for others.

PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley
508-949-8021

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

It's that time of year! The Giving Tree will begin the first week in November. Share in the holiday spirit by giving to local children in need!

The November featured artists are Jenny DelGizzi & Robin Mitzcavitch from Happy Arts Events. A variety of their pieces will be on display for you to enjoy in the Fels Room whenever the Library is open.

The Library will be closed Wednesday, November 11th in observance of Veterans Day. We will also be closed Thursday, November 26th & Friday, November 27th for Thanksgiving.

Gentle Yoga
Every Monday
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



Community Connection

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence
WE BUY GOLD
Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs
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409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Got Space?
we do.
Contact Mikaela Today
774-200-7308
mikaela@
stonebridgepress.news



ing to form distinct sets or pairs of tiles, similar to gin rummy. Everyone is welcome; registration is not required.

Quilting Group
Every Wednesday
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

Saturday, November 14th
11:00-12:00

A fun, educational talk highlighting the history and many health benefits of tea and dark chocolate (cacao), with insights from a chocolatier. We will discuss how to brew a proper cuppa, how tea varieties differ, and the tenets of the Cha/ Tea Ceremonies. Included are samplings of tea infusions paired with fine chocolates: a trivia quiz, fun poetry, teapot display and more.

Kim Larkin is the owner of Klassic Kreations, LLC. She presents fun, educational programming that stimulates the mind, senses and palate throughout New England. She is a licensed commercial Chocolatier, holds certification from the Specialty Coffee Assoc. in Foundations and is a Tea Aficionado. In 2023, she completed her 200 hr. Kripalu School of Ayurveda Health Certification. Kim is a NAHA Certified Aromatherapist ,a Usui Reiki Master, and has taught art to all ages for over twenty years. She is the author of It's Easy Being Queen (When you know your worth). Her book highlights the Royal Rules of self-empowerment and delivers the gentle but important reminder of self-worth.

Bedazzled Books with Happy Arts
Monday, November 16th
6:00-7:00

Join us for the latest creative craze—book bedazzling! Happy Arts will be on hand to guide you through the process of transforming an ordinary book into a sparkling, one-of-a-kind creation. We'll provide all the supplies—you just bring a book! Paperback or hardcover, the choice is yours. Come get creative and add a little sparkle to your favorite read! Registration Required.

Threaded Together
Thursday, November 19th
6:00-7:30

Join us at the Pearle Crawford Library for a screening of our original film: Threaded Together: Mill Work and Life in Webster, MA.

An original 40-minute film featuring stories and memories of working in the Webster Mills from 1950-1975. A collaboration between the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library, Nichols College, Karen Warinsky, and the Webster Senior Center.

Crawford Library Book Group
Thursday, November 19th

My Friends by Fredrik Backman
6:00-7:30

Books are available at the circulation desk for checkout one month before the discussion.

No Registration Required

"Cook the Book" Book Club-Texture Over Taste by Joshua Weissman
Monday, November 23rd
6:00-7:00

"Cook The Book" Book Club will meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 6:00

You will 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.

Dudley Board of Selectmen Office Hours
Saturday, November 28th
10:00-12:00

Have a question, concern, or idea to share? Stop by the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library during Board of Selectmen Office Hours. This is an informal opportunity to meet with members of the Board, ask questions, discuss town issues, and learn more about what's happening in the community. No appointment is necessary—residents are welcome to drop in during the scheduled office hours. There might even be refreshments!

Children's & Family Programming

Storytime with Polly
Every Monday at 10:00-10:45

For ages 2.5-5 and their caregiver (but babies and toddlers are welcome to join as well!)

Join us for stories, songs, fingerplays, scarves, shaker eggs, moving our bodies to music, activities, bubbles, a craft, and free play!

Science Heroes-Digging It!
Thursday, November 12th
6:00-7:00

Unearth your curiosity as we dig into the incredible science that's all around us! If you didn't already love science, you'll really 'dig it' after experiencing Science Heroes! Learn about pressure and energy with the Toilet Tornado! Or how about the effects of angles and trajectory with the Hydro-Cannon? Like all Science Heroes programs, "Digging It!" features tons of audience interaction and opportunities for your children to volunteer.

Pokemon Club
Thursday, November 19th
6:00-6:45

Do you love everything Pokemon? Join us for Pokemon Club where you can meet other Pokemon fans and trade cards if you want to! Best for ages 6 and up. No registration required. This is not a drop-off program.

Mindful Movement with Buffy
Friday, November 20th
11:00-11:45

Get moving together with certified health instructor Buffy in this fun, 45-minute family movement class! Through playful movement, stretching, and mindfulness activities, caregivers and children ages 3+ will enjoy time together while building healthy movement habits. Registration is required as space is limited.

Peaceful Projects
Wednesday, November 25th
2:00-3:00

Join Rileigh for a drop-in craft! Painting, slime making, doodling, and more! Every session will be a little different than the last! Best for ages 5-12. Registration requested. This is not a drop-off event.

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880
Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Assistant Director, Evan Hale, at ehale@cwmars.org

Special Events

Tiny Art Show – Starting November 2nd

Calling all art lovers! The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library is hosting a Tiny Art Show, showcasing miniature pieces of art from our community. All creators are invited to participate -- no matter their age or skill level! Starting Monday, November 2nd, pick up your 3 in. x 3 in. canvas from the main Circulation Desk or the Children's Desk. All mediums are strongly encouraged! For example, if you want to submit a 3 in. x 3 in. photograph or a 3 in. sculpture that is welcome. Keep an eye on our calendar for some fun drop-in events to complete your submissions with us! Important Dates: Canvas Pick Up: November 2nd-21st Art Submission Deadline: Tuesday, November 24th! Please be sure to complete the submission form with your artwork. Artwork on display: All of December

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. For more information, email us at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Monday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Mondays; 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 9:15am

Join Meg 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.

Drop-in Mahjong – Mondays 1:00-3:00PM

Stop in for a weekly mahjong game at the Gladys E. Kelly Library. All skill levels welcome! Mahjong is a tile-based game for two to four players.

Digital Literacy Course: Essential Computer Skills – Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30pm, beginning September 29th

Ready to get comfortable using a computer? This six-week course is designed for adults with little or no computer skill or experience who want to build confidence using technology for everyday life, work, and education. Students will learn the essential computer skills needed to navigate today's digital world. Through hands-on instruction and guided practice, participants will gain confidence using a computer, the internet, and common online tools in a supportive, beginner-friendly environment. Classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through November 10th, at 5:30-7:30PM. If you have any questions, email websterabelinkages@webster-schools.org or call (508) 949-8282 to register.

Registration through Adult Basic Education is required.

The Nest: Small Business Growth Marketing Program – November 7th, 14th, December 5th, 12th, January 9th and 16th

The Nest Small Business Growth Marketing Program is a three-month practical training program designed to help local small-business owners develop a repeatable system for attracting new customers, converting prospects, increasing repeat business, and generating referrals.

This program consists of six sessions held the first two weeks of November, December, and January.

Registration is for all 6 sessions. Please plan to attend every session if you register!

Cat Moon Shadow Concert – Thursday, November 12th 6:30-7:30PM

This is a heartfelt tribute to the iconic singer-songwriter Cat Stevens and is presented in an intimate, acoustic, singer-songwriter style. John expertly connects with his audience, creating a musical journey through the timeless songs of Stevens. His voice is strikingly reminiscent of Cat in his prime and Fuzek pours raw emotion into each performance. The show, which includes a mix of beloved hits and hidden gems, lasts approximately two hours, offering an unforgettable experience of music and stories that pays tribute to the soul-stirring music of this legendary artist. The songs of Cat Stevens are beloved-"Wild World", "Father & Son", "Peace Train", and of course, "Moonshadow". Stevens was a superstar in the heyday of 1970's singer-songwriters and his music was omnipresent. His songs can still be heard on the radio, in films, and occasionally performed by Cat himself at a rare performance. Unfortunately Cat Stevens canceled his October 2025 tour of the United States and there are currently no plans to reschedule. This leaves Cat Stevens fans wanting to hear his music performed, live. Fuzek entertains his audience with an array of music spanning the 1960s through 1970s albums as well as background about the songs and Cat Stevens.

Trivia Palooza 10 – Monday, November 23rd 6:00-7:00 PM

Join Evan and his sister Carrie for General Knowledge Trivia. Assemble your team (up to 5 people) and put your thinking caps on! Registration is required. Please only register 1 person per team; you cannot complete the registration process online if you say there are more attendees. We do not need to know how many people are on your team, but the maximum is 5. The winning team gets a prize!

Programming for All Ages

Library for All: Crafts –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! September-February, the crafts will rotate between coloring and painting. We'll provide the space and supplies, you bring the creativity!

Tiny Art Show: Mini Picture Frames – November 12th at 5:00-6:00 PM

Want to enter our Tiny Art Show in an unique way? Come decorate your own mini picture frame and fit a tiny picture inside. Each picture frame will be the perfect size to be entered into our Tiny Art Show.

Puzz Fest- Thursday. November 19th at 6:00 PM

Assemble your team (up to 5 people!) and join us to see which team can complete their puzzle first. We'll have snacks to keep you fueled as you tackle your 500 piece jigsaw. All teams will get to keep their puzzle. Registration is required. Please only register 1 person per team; you cannot complete the registration process online if you say there are more attendees. We do not need to know how many people are on your team, but the maximum is 5.

Children's and Young Adult Programming

NEW Toddler Storytime – Mondays, 10:30am

Join us every Monday from 10:30–11:30am for a storytime designed for toddlers and their caregivers! We'll read stories, sing songs, and enjoy fingerplays together before diving into hands-on sensory free play. Together we'll build early literacy skills, spark curiosity, and discover the joy of learning through play!

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm

Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces!

Tiny Groovers –Tuesdays at 10:30am

Join Miss Paige for a groovy storytime! Toddlers ages 2-5 and their caregivers will dance to popular kids' tunes while using instruments and playful props, and enjoy an interactive story each week.

Tween Game Night – Twice a month Tuesday, November 3rd and November 24th 5:30-6:30PM

Welcome to our brand-new Tween Game Night, happening twice a month for kids 7-12. Each session will offer a different type of game:

Board Game Night: Learn a new board game or bring your friends along to play some games together. Caregivers are encouraged to participate in the fun!

Video Game Night: Challenge your friends to some friendly competition! Every month will feature a different multiplayer game including Mario Kart, Nintendo Sports, Just Dance, Overcooked, Super Smash Bros and more!

Due to limited space, registration is required.

Kim the LEGO Lady – Tuesday, November 17th 4:00-5:00 PM

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

Snack Club: Mini Banana Chocolate Chip Muffins-Tuesday, November 17th 5:30-6:30 PM

Snack Club is back! Each month, kids ages 7-12 will get to make their own tasty treats or try out fun new flavors with friends. Due to limited supplies, this program requires registration. Please only sign up your child if they fall within the required age range.

WEBSTER SENIOR CENTER

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov
Senior Center hours are Monday- Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

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

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least three business days in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A $3.00 donation for 65 and up, and $5 for 55- 64 is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread, and dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday, 11/17: Teriyaki beef, steamed rice, and roasted broccoli. Wednesday, 11/18: Salisbury steak with gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, and Italian blend vegetables. Thursday, 11/19: Ham and cheese chicken bake, red bliss potatoes, and green beans. Friday, 11/20: Soup du jour, corned beef sandwiches, and coleslaw.

Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 508-248-4299 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays-Fridays 8:30 am- 3:00 pm.

Join us for our Friendsgiving celebration on Monday, November 16th! Enjoy live music, your favorite friends, and a Pasta Bar sponsored by Tri-Valley for $3!

Come down to Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center! Call 508-341-8724 for an appointment. Bomba Beauty Salon is open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am- 1:00 pm, and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am- 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

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

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

We offer Movies every Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 pm! November's last movie will 'Nobody's Fool' on 11/18!

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

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

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

We now have an official Bridge group! We will be meeting every Friday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. All that are interested are welcome to join!

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

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

Friday's Child



Paul
Age 1
Registration #9291

Paul is an adorable baby with a sweet, easy-going temperament. He enjoys teething toys and toys that he can spin with his hands. Paul loves sensory bubble timers and listening to nursery rhymes, and music is one of his favorite activities. His favorite songs are from "Super Simple Songs" on YouTube. When Paul likes a song, he will wave his hands around as if he is conducting an orchestra. Paul is easily soothed, enjoys engaging with others, and feels comfortable in new environments. His gentle personality and love of music make him a joy to be around.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/32358211403

Can I Adopt?

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

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



LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P3562EA
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Estate Of:
Barbara A. Evangeline
Date of Death: September 21, 2026
To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Pamela E. Erickson of Boylston MA**
a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Pamela E. Erickson of Boylston MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the 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.
November 13, 2026

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
Docket Number: 26 SM 001927
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: Angela Phaneuf
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq)
Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in 27 Homestead Avenue, Auburn, MA 01501, given by Angela Phaneuf to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, dated October 31, 2023 and recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 69829, Page 329, 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 12/07/2026 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 on 10/20/2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
November 13, 2026

THE COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY
DIVISION
NOTICE OF A VIRTUAL DESIGN
PUBLIC HEARING
Project Description: MassDOT Districts 2 and 3 – Vulnerable Road User Crosswalk Installation at State Signals at Multiple Locations
Project File No. 616304
A Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed project in MassDOT Districts 2 and 3 including Southwick, Westfield, Hadley, and Auburn.
WHEN: **6:30pm, Thursday, November 19, 2026**
PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.
PROPOSAL: This project includes pedestrian safety improvements such as changes to traffic signal timing, phasing, coordination, and detection, addition or reconstruction of curb ramps and crosswalks, providing Accessible Pedestrian Signals push buttons with countdown pedestrian signal heads, reconstruction of sidewalks connecting signalized intersections with bus stops, restricting right turns on red, and minor geometric changes. Bicycle infrastructure improvements are outside the scope of this project. The project locations include:
• **Hadley - Route 9 at the Hampshire Mall Driveway**
• **Westfield - Route 20 at Delmont Avenue**
• **Westfield - Route 20 from the Walmart Driveway to East Mountain Road**
• **Southwick - Routes 10 and 202 at Route 168 and Vining Hill Road**
• **Auburn - Route 12 at Oxford Street North in Auburn.**
A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The **Commonwealth of Massachusetts** is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be presented in the hearing.
Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Project Management, Project File No. **616304**. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted.
MassDOT provides translation, interpretation, and other reasonable accommodations upon request. Requests should be made at least ten (10) business days prior to the event. Please contact MassDOT's Highway Project Accommodations office at MassDOTHighwayProjectAccommodations@dot.state.ma.us for your accommodation needs.
This hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events.
JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR
CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER
November 13, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL
COURT
26 SM 003555
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Heirs, Devisees, and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Tina Crentsil a/k/a Tina Maame Esi Crentsil; Prince P. Tenteh, Individually and as Proposed Fiduciary of the Estate of Tina Crentsil
a/k/a Tina Maame Esi Crentsil
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50
§ 3901 (et seq):
Freedom Mortgage Corporation
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 39 Scenic Avenue, given by Tina Crentsil to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD., dated January 18, 2023, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68733, Page 99, 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 14, 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 November 2, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
November 13, 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. W026P3463EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Tina Maame Esi Crentsil
Date of Death: 02/18/2026
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Wlil** has been filed by **Prince P Tenteh of Worcester 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: .
Prince P Tenteh of Worcester 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 .**
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: October 21, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. W024P0316PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT
In the matter of: Marilyn K Woodard
Of: Webster, MA
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **1st Temp** account(s) of Nicholas J Morana of Shrewsbury, MA as Conservator of Iha property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.
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 **12/01/2026.** 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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 27, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. W024P1763PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT
In the matter of:
Barry Herbert Woodard
Of: Webster, MA
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the 1st account(s) of Nicholas J Morana of Shrewsbury, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.
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 **12/01/2026.** 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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 27, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. W026P1666EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Joyce A Nilson
Date of Death: 09/16/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Sandra A Brown of Millbury MA and George C Berry of Auburn 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: .
Sandra A Brown of Millbury MA and George C Berry of Auburn 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 12/01/2026.**
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: November 02, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

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Please inform Auburn Historical Society of any donations

AUBURN — The mission of the Auburn Historical Society is to preserve and share the history of our town and surrounding area. Through the collection, preservation, and exhibition of historical materials, artifacts, and stories, we strive to engage the community and promote a deeper appreciation of our local history for current and future generations.

Recently, the Auburn Historical Society and Museum received an anonymous donation of a large vintage topographical map book which was left at the museum's door in a plastic bag. The museum appreciates any and all donations that help preserve the past, especially Auburns. As the museum is only open on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, this donation may not have been discovered before the predicted rain that came later on in the week. There is a phone number on the door that donors can call and leave a message that a donation has been left at the museum, whether you wish to remain anonymous or not.

Girl Scout troops welcome new members

AUBURN — Girls entering grades K and 1 in the fall are invited to join Troop 65600, which meets in Auburn every other Tuesday 5:30-6:30 p.m., and Troop 655999, which meets every other Thursday in Dudley from 6-7:15 p.m. Girl membership registration fee is $111, and is active until September 30, 2027. Financial Assistance is available.

Girl Scouts is the premier organization for girls to learn about leadership, financial literacy, life skills, the outdoors, community service, science and technology.

Girl Scout programming is customizable for all types of learners!

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

You can register for a spot in the troop at https://go.gscwm.org/troop65600

Questions? Email info@gscwm.org or call 508-365-0115.

About Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves nearly 6,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 2,500 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience, and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.

www.StonebridgePress.com

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. W024P0316PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT
In the matter of: Marilyn K Woodard
Of: Webster, MA

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **1st Perm** account(s) of Nicholas J Morana of Shrewsbury, MA as Conservator of Iha property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

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 **12/01/2026.** 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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 27, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 13, 2026

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 003558
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Daniel Bakerlis
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):
Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 91 1/2 Chase Avenue, Unit 2, given by Floris Bakerlis and Daniel Bakerlis to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for 1-800-East-West Mortgage Company, dated November 19, 2009, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 45143, Page 354, 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 21, 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 November 6, 2026.
Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
November 13, 2026



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OBITUARIES

Jacquelyn A. Koslowski, 73



Dudley- Jacquelyn A. (Coderre) Koslowski, 73, of Meadow Lane, passed away on Friday, Nov. 6th, in the Rose Monahan Hospice Home, Worcester, after a brief illness.

She leaves her husband of 53 years, Louis L. Koslowski; her three daughters, Liz L. LaFrance and her husband Garrett of Charlton, Tracy Cool and her husband Raymond of Smyrna, DE and Emily Koslowski of Dudley; her two sisters, Elaine Rizner and her husband Kenneth of Southbridge and Nancy Coderre and her husband Bruce Desrosier of Southbridge; her three grandchildren, Madelynn Cool, Louis Cool, and Aiden LaFrance; and nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, Jane Garceau. Jacquelyn was born in Southbridge, the daughter of the late Robert E. and Georgette T. (Pinsonneault) Coderre.

Jacquelyn dedicated her life to raising her family while working in the Dudley and Putnam School Districts. Throughout her daughters' youth, she actively supported and managed their sports teams, booster clubs, and local activities. Later, she and her husband Lou owned and operated the catering services at Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge. Following her retirement several years ago, she focused on her passion for crafting—specializing in making beautiful quilts, seasonal decorations, and handmade bags—while spending quality time with her family and friends.

Jacquelyn's funeral services will be private. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, her request was that donations be made to the Rose Monahan Hospice Home.

The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Elaine M. Jean, 89



Elaine M. (Pehoviak) Jean, 89, of Dudley died Thursday, November 5, 2026, at Overlook Masonic Health Center of Charlton. Elaine was born on October 4, 1937, in Webster. She was the daughter of the late Howard T. and Stasia M. (Zych) Pehoviak.

Elaine is survived by her daughter Andrea (Jean) Krensky and son-in-law Robert Krensky of Sutton, and her son Stephen Jean and daughter-in-law Susan (Smith) Jean of Oxford. She was the loving grandmother of Alexandra Jean Krensky of Washington, DC, and Madeleine Elaine Jean of Oxford

Elaine was predeceased by her husband Joseph Ronald Jean, and in recent years, by her longtime companion James C. Jodoin.

Elaine will be missed by her many friends, cousins and nieces and nephews.

A graduate of Bartlett High School and The Forsyth School for Dental Hygienists. Elaine was a skilled and dedicated hygienist. She enjoyed working with Dr. Emile Dupont, Dr. Edward Slyzk and Dr. Timothy Zajac, and her many patients, over her long career.

Elaine was a communicant of St. Anthony of Padua for over 50 years.

A funeral mass will be held 1:00 pm on Thursday, November 12 at St. Anthony Of Padua

Church, 24 Dudley Hill Road in Dudley. A burial beside her beloved husband Ronald will be held at a later at the Corbin Cemetery in Dudley.

Calling hours will be Thursday, November 12 from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue in Dudley. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. (stjude.org)

www.bartelfuneralhome.com

William E. Potter, 86



OXFORD – William E. Potter, 86, of Locust Street, died Sunday, November 1, 2026, at the Rose Monahan Hospice Residence in Worcester surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Ann T. (Grady) Potter of Oxford; two children, Donna M. Greenough of Charlton, and William M. Potter and his partner Eduardo Ramirez of San Antonio, TX; his brother, Donald W. Potter of Wisconsin; two granddaughters, Megan Afiri and her husband Sami Afiri of Palmer, and Kerry Greenough and boyfriend Rhylan Hopkins of Charlton; a great-grandson, Dawson Afiri; his best friend, Richard Chretien of Rhode Island; and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister, Miriam Cunniff.

He was born in Providence, RI, son of the late Harold and Helena (Hartigan) Potter, and lived in Burrillville, RI, before moving to Oxford in 1973. He graduated from Burrillville High School in 1959. He proudly served in the U.S. Army stateside and in Germany from 1963-1965.

Mr. Potter was a machinist at Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford, CT, for 36 years. Later, he worked at Central Mass Auto Auction for many years and also at Alpine Industrial Supply, both were jobs he truly enjoyed. He was an active member of St. Roch's Church in Oxford, where he volunteered for the Annual Bishop's Fund Drive. He also was a retired member of the Oxford Memorial Honor Guard.

Mr. Potter loved to play golf and belonged to golf leagues at Highfields Golf Club in Grafton and Pine Ridge Country Club in Oxford for many years. He played in the Oxford Jack Benny softball league for several years and back in the day played pick-up hockey in Rhode Island and Worcester. He coached Little League in Oxford for many years, guiding his team to be League Champions in 1986. He enjoyed caring for his yard and his vegetable garden, especially his tomato plants. In the warm months, he enjoyed spending time at his summer home on Cape Cod with family and friends. He loved to travel with his wife, especially to Aruba. He was an avid New England sports fan, but his favorite sporting events were always those of his children and grandchildren.



A dedicated family man, he had a rare gift for spreading joy. He will forever be cherished for his quick wit, genuine compliments, and unforgettable dance moves that never failed to make people smile. that never failed to make us

A funeral was held on Friday, November 6, 2026, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St. Roch's Church, 332 Main St., Oxford. Burial with military honors followed at St. Roch's Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours were Thursday, November 5, 2026, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Partners in Charity, Diocese of Worcester, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

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

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AWARD

continued from page A1

many families are facing increasing economic pressure and uncertainty around access to food assistance programs, school breakfast can serve as an important nutritional safety net for children.

The awards come as the Healey-Driscoll Administration launches the Strengthening School Breakfast Challenge, a new statewide initiative aimed at increasing breakfast participation and helping more students begin the day with a healthy meal. The administration is collaborating with the Eos Foundation, Project Bread, and New England Dairy to provide schools with resources, technical assistance, and funding opportunities to build up their breakfast programs.

Research shows that how breakfast is served can significantly impact student participation. A recent Nutrition Policy Institute study found that students were three times more likely to eat school breakfast when it was served in the classroom rather than only in the cafeteria before school started. Breakfast in the Classroom helps remove common barriers to participation, including transportation schedules, family routines, and the challenges many students face in arriving early enough to eat before classes begin.

The Healthy Start Awards are part of the Eos Foundation's broader effort to increase access to school breakfast across Massachusetts. Through Breakfast in the Classroom, Eos provides grants of up to $20,000 per school, along with technical assistance and implementation support, to help eligible schools strengthen or expand their breakfast programs. Funding can support equipment, operational expenses, and incentives that help schools incorporate breakfast into the school day.

Since launching the Healthy Start Awards in 2014, Eos has partnered with districts across Massachusetts to boost participation and recognize approaches that help students start the day ready to learn.

The complete list of 2026 Healthy Start Award recipients is available here.

Schools interested in learning more about Breakfast in the Classroom grants and technical assistance can visit eosfoundation.org.

About the Eos Foundation

The Eos Foundation is a private foundation focused on systemic solutions to end hunger in Massachusetts. Since 2013, Eos has supported hundreds of schools with Breakfast in the Classroom start-up grants and annually recognizes schools with at least 80 percent breakfast participation through its Healthy Start Awards. Learn more at eosfoundation.org.

BAN

continued from page A1

unauthorized, makeshift tree stand.

"Keeping these spaces safe for visitors of all ages is our top priority," said Liza Moran, President of DCLT. "Finding human-caused damage to a mature tree on sanctuary land is heartbreaking. As we open these lands to the public, shared respect is vital for our outdoor community. We are asking the local sporting community to partner with us by respecting these new boundaries so that everyone can enjoy Central Massachusetts safely."

DCLT emphasizes that its policies are not anti-hunting; ethical hunting plays a vital role in regional conservation. While hunting is banned on these two smaller tracts, seasonal hunting is open to the public at the 142-acre Slater Woods/Hiland Park Sanctuary in accordance with state regulations.

Passive recreation remains welcome at all DCLT sites from sunrise to sunset. However, DCLT strongly reminds all outdoor enthusiasts to wear bright blaze orange when visiting local woods during autumn. Visitors can verify property boundaries and rules across all 470 acres under DCLT stewardship at dudleyclt.org.

HOLIDAY

continued from page A1

remains a key part of this beloved Oxford tradition. The Oxford Fire Department is still accepting Holiday Lights Parade float entries. Entry forms are available at the Community Center, Town Hall, and online at oxfordma.us. All parade applications must be submitted by Dec. 3.

In support of the Oxford Police Department's "Operation Santa," donations of unwrapped toys will be accepted at the North Fire Station, the garage at Stanley Johnson Baseball Field (adjacent to North Fire Station), and the Town Common Bandstand.

"This annual event brings neighbors, families, businesses, and community organizations together to celebrate the holiday season and showcase the wonderful community spirit that makes Oxford special," organizers said. "We encourage everyone to come out, enjoy the festivities, and help light up the season."

For additional information, parade registration forms, and event updates, visit www.oxfordma.us.

Event at a Glance

What: 2026 Holiday Lights Parade & Bandstand Tree Lighting When: Sunday, Dec. 6 Parade Start: 5 p.m. Parade Route: North Fire Station, 656 Main St. to Joslin Park Town Common, 352 Main St. Highlights: Tree lighting, Santa & Mrs. Claus and other characters, holiday music, cookies, hot chocolate, and community holiday fun Float Registration Deadline: Dec. 3

Admission is free, and all are welcome. Bring your family, your holiday spirit, and join Oxford as we kick off the season together!

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Local students enroll at College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — The College of the Holy Cross congratulates the new Crusaders who started at the College in Fall 2026. The following local students are part of the Class of 2030:

Liam Doyle of Auburn
Magdalene Essien of Auburn
Matthew Friedland of Auburn
Panayiotis Poniros of Auburn
Brooke Whitcher of Auburn
Natallie Habib of Dudley

At 860 students, the Class of 2030 includes students from 39 U.S. states and territories and 5 different countries. This incoming class represents one of the most academically accomplished classes in the College's history.

Admission to the Class of 2030 was more competitive than ever with a record-breaking 10,600+ applications received and a highly-selective 17 percent acceptance rate.

The new Crusaders have distinguished themselves through community service, leadership roles, and diverse participation in areas like the arts, music and athletics.

"Welcome, Class of 2030!" College President Vincent D. Rougeau told the class during First-Year Convocation. "As you settle into your residence halls, find your way around campus, meet new people, and experience college life here on the Hill, know that you are joining a global community of learners and educators and that your education is meant to serve not only you, but society as well."

About Holy Cross:

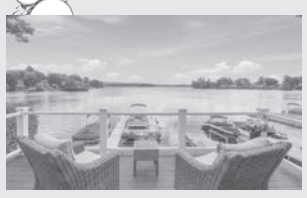
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester

Natallie Habib of Dudleyis among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.



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MLS# 73589032 $1,199,000

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

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24 Laurelwood Dr Webster Lake Waterfront

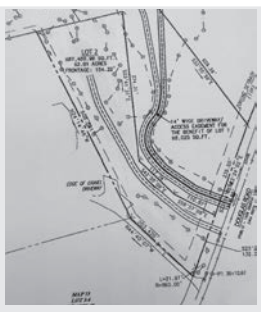

On the shores of prestigious Webster Lake! Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living with direct water access. This young modern craftsman lake home is masterly designed to maximize panoramic Western views through a two-story architectural tower. The home boasts 3,790 +/- square feet of sophisticated, three-story living space, complete with multilevel waterside decks, a radius stone faced patio, and a tiered landscape with its own waterfall. The living room flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck and into an exquisite sun-drenched sitting room. A magnificent primary bedroom suite offers a private full bath, double sink vanity, walk-in closet and dressing room. The purposely designed lower level delivers effortless, large-volume entertainment, featuring a full second kitchen and a sprawling recreation room that opens to a substantial lakeside patio. With 2 additional bedrooms and bath, this level easily serves as a private guest floor. This Lake property is designed to create long-lasting memories!
MLS#73563787 $1,750,000

Webster ~ 33 Slater Street

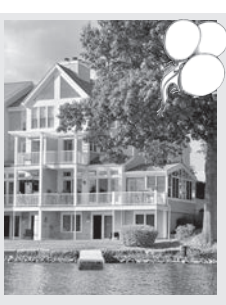

Sprawling fieldstone faced Ranch! Located on a +/- 0.5-acre, 2 car garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces-FHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/ sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom
MLS # 73500183 $464,900

Thompson CT ~ 303 Riverside Dr


Country Cape Style Home set back about 120' from the road! 4 bedrooms, 1600 sq ft of living area. 2 story barn. 4 Acres surrounded by wide field stone walls.
MLS# 24196428 $415,000.


Webster - Douglas Rd (Rt 16) ANR Lot # 2
Building Lot, 2.01 +/- acres, 154' road frontage, Surveyed and portioned out of a larger tract of land, Zoned ASFR (Agricultural Single Family Residential) Located near State Land
~ A Great Value at $69,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

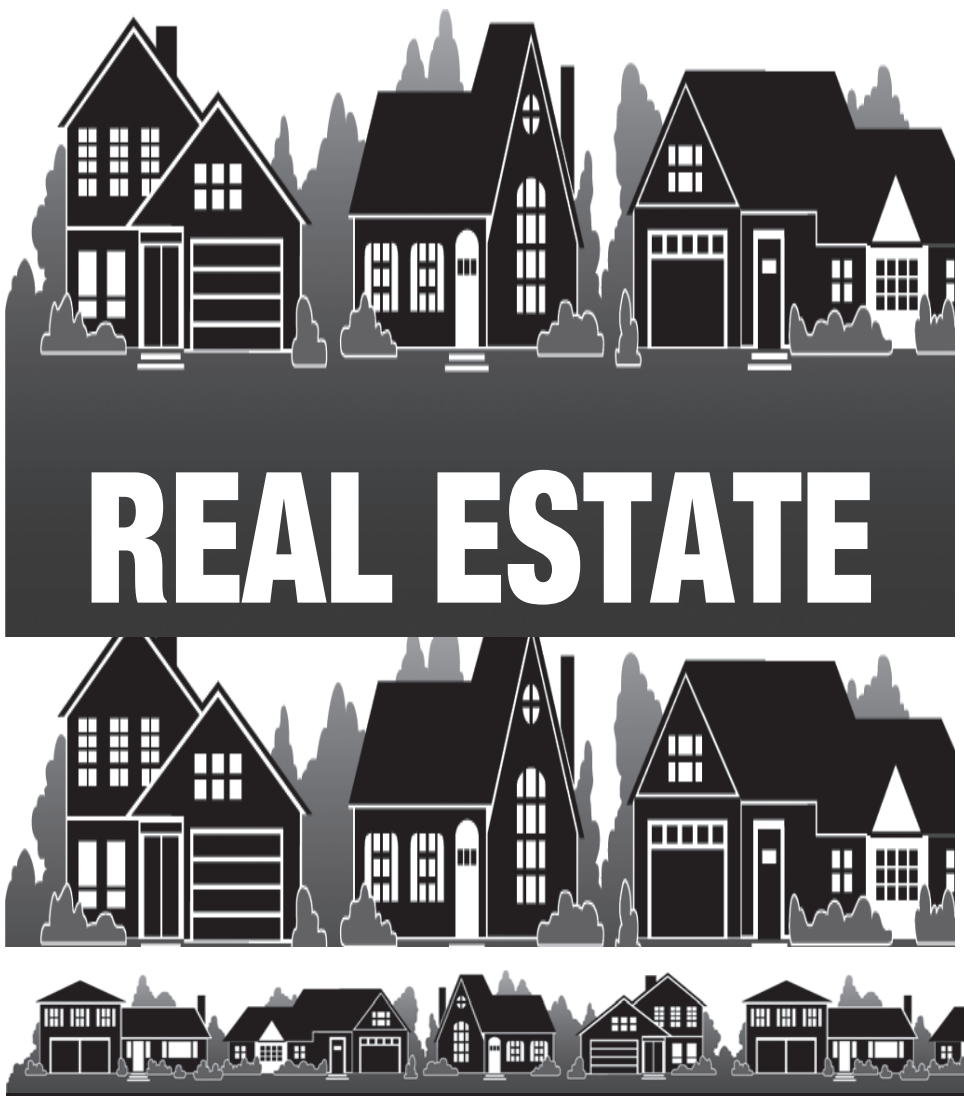

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VIEW REALTOR MLS # 73507605 FOR MORE DETAILS $948,000

Webster Lake ~
60 Wakefield Ave ~ Corner Lot!
Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW home! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!

Go To MLS # 73582966 $277,500.

Webster Lake ~0 Wakefield Ave

Rare Lake Residential Building Opportunity! 1 of 2 build-ready level, landscaped lots ~ each with 1/3 ownership of a private, prime waterfront lot, swimmable & boatable, where you will enjoy a sun drenched sandy shoreline & boat dock ~ just baby steps away from your NEW HOME! You will have direct lake access, low off-Lake taxes, access to municipal water/sewer services and an established neighborhood. Build now or build later BUT enjoy Webster Lake IMMEDIATELY!
Go To MLS # 73582967 $247,500




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*Country Kitchen
*3 Bedrooms
* Garage
133 Church Street

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*No Closing Costs * 3 Full Baths
*7 Rooms
*Family Room
95 A.F. Putnam Rd $675,000

SUTTON-
MOTIVATED SELLER!

*3 BR *1.5 Baths
*First Floor Family Room
*1.4 acres
9 Colonial Rd $530,000

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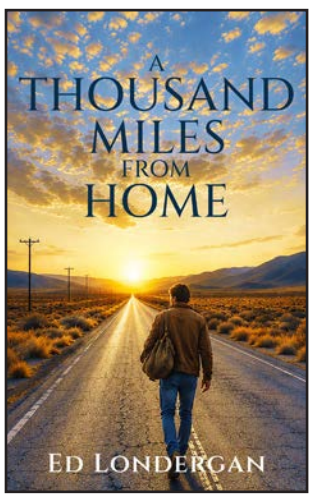

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Booklovers' Gourmet welcomes author Ed Londergan

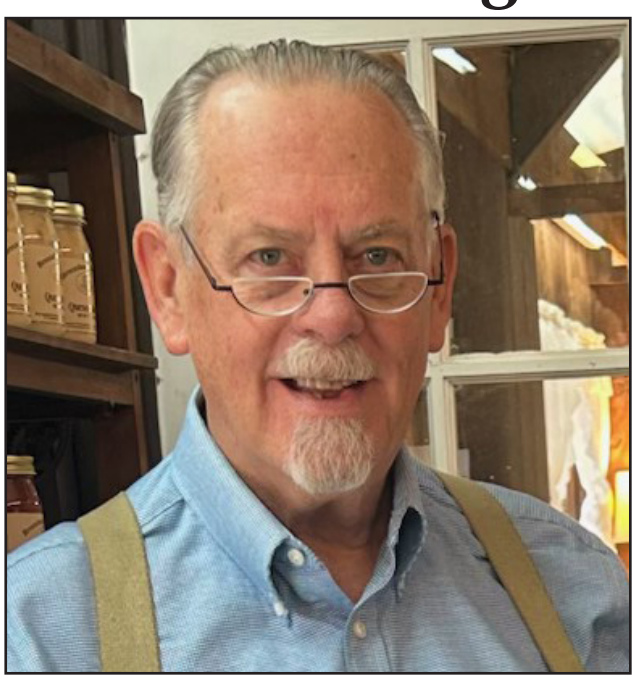


WEBSTER — On Saturday, Dec. 5 from 1-3 p.m., Booklovers' Gourmet in Webster welcomes author Ed Londergan with his contemporary fiction novel "A Thousand Miles from Home," about family, redemption, reconciliation, and the sometimes-difficult journey home.

Londergan will talk about the inspiration for the novel, creating Sam's journey, using Massachusetts as a setting, and writing about family, estrangement, redemption, reconciliation, and forgiveness. This free event will also include a short reading, audience Q&A, and a book signing. Booklovers' Gourmet is located at 72 East Main St., Webster. For more information, please call 508-949-6232.

About the book: Getting on the wrong bus changed Sam Parker's life. He had walked away from his family twelve years earlier, trying to find his place in the world. His wanderings uncovered things he hoped to find and others he wanted to forget. Surrendering to his demons brings him to rock bottom, with nowhere to go but up. After falling in love with the woman who saved him, an overpowering dream compels him to finish his journey. Knowing he might never see her again, it was heartbreaking when he had to leave her. When he reaches his destination, the startling news awaiting him turns his life upside down and leads to a future he could never have imagined, including helping his estranged brother fulfill a promise neither of them wants to keep.

Ed Londergan is the author of the award-winning "The Devil's Elbow" and "The Long Journey Home." His latest book, "Unlike Any Other," is a historical fiction account of the moving story of Bathsheba Spooner and the trial of the 18th century. His stories explore hope, redemption, and the resilience of the human spirit. A constant reader, avid gardener, and believer that life is an adventure, he lives in Warren.



Master Masons install new officers for 2027

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE LODGE
SOUTHBRIDGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Tuesday, Oct. 20, Master Masons, their families, and friends gathered at Major General Salem Towne Lodge in Southbridge to witness and celebrate the installation of Doric Chapter's officers for the 2027 Masonic year. Members of Doric Chapter are Royal Arch Masons within the York Rite. Founded in 1867, Doric Chapter is the third-oldest Royal Arch chapter in Massachusetts.

Later that week, on Saturday, Oct. 24, Blue Lodge Master Masons gathered with their families, fellow lodge members, and friends at Major General Salem Towne Lodge's (MGSTL) Webster building to celebrate the installation of officers for the 2027 Masonic year. Chartered in 1859, the lodge has served the community for 168 years and continues to thrive through Masonic fellowship and the dedication of its family-oriented members.

After 168 years, MGSTL and Doric Chapter continue to uphold the traditions of Freemasonry and its mission of making good men even better. Our members take great pride in these enduring traditions and in the next generation of officers who will serve both organizations with honor and preserve their legacy for the future. To learn more about Freemasonry or find a lodge near you, visit www.massfreemasonry.org.



The Blue Lodge members of MGSTL left to right: Brother Rick LaVergne, bro. Damien Travernier, bro. Joel Reich, Master Bro. Charles Lamarche Jr. holding gavel, bro. Gordan Forsberg, bro. Paul Davidson, bro. Clay Tull. 2nd row left to right: bro. Jean Lefebvre, bro. Paul Horan, bro. Joshua Jezerski, bro. Will Proper, bro. Joshua Kirkwood and bro. Jason MacGillivery. MGSTL 2027 new line of officers.



Courtesy

Doric Chapter members left to right: Companion Joshua Kirkwood, comp. Damien Travernier, The High Priest comp. Dean Cook, comp. Steven LaVergne, comp. John Shaw, comp. Ken Pierce. 2nd row left to right Companion Clay Tull, comp. Gary Clifford, comp. Josh Jezerski, comp. Richard Clark and comp. Eric Willard. Doric Chapter 2027 new line officers.



Courtesy

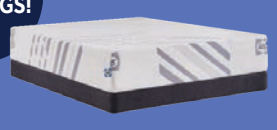
Dudley Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month. Pictured are Kristina Hagearty, Julien Moniz, Reese Rim, Cedric Synal, Gabriella Powaza, London Hogan, Madison Fortin, Dante Defranc, Henri Hokanson, Cailin Lambert, Hayden Anders-Sobol, Connor Campbell, Elianna Ibrahim, & Natalie Stinehart.

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Final spoken word reading for Poets at Large's Fall season set for Nov. 21

POMFRET, Conn. — Nov. 21 will be the final spoken word event of 2026 for Poets at Large. That night poet and troubador Tommy Twilite will perform, followed by author, poet, musician Scott Laudati.

This event begins at 7 p.m. at The Vanilla Bean, 450 Deerfield Rd., Pomfret. Suggested donation: $10. Contact karen.warinsky@gmail.com to be in the open mic. Recommended for age 16 and up.

Tommy Twilite is a Massachusetts troubadour who combines music, poetry, exploration and

adventure into his performances. He is the co-founder and former director of the Florence Poets

Society, former editor of Silkworm and is a Lifetime Beat Poet Laureate. He also hosts the Twilite Poetry Pub on WXOJ Valley Free Radio. His latest chapbook, Kills No Bird is a follow up to his 2021 collection, Fifty Words for Rain. Twilite is well known as someone who can transport an audience to another realm with his words and music. He was honored by the National Baseball Poetry Festival in 2024 for his poem, "The Tools of Ignorance."

Scott Laudati runs Bone Machine, a punk rock press, from his apartment in NYC with his dog, Josie. He is the author of Play The Devil (novel) and RAINBOW ROAD (poetry). His essays/poems/short stories have been published by The Columbia Journal, The Stockholm Review, Hobart, The Belfast Review, The Adirondack Review and others. Laudati has won the Jack Grapes Poetry Prize, The Riggs Gold Medal Essay Award and The Stark Award in Fiction. Follow him for his ruminations on pizza & existentialism published yearly by X-R-AY magazine at @ScottLaudati. Poets at Large is a project of Windham Arts and is sponsored in part by bankHometown, Linemaster Switch, Charter Oak FCU, WHZ Financial and The Putnam Area Foundation. The Vanilla Bean is ADA compliant.

First Congregational Church of Oxford to host annual Christmas Tea and Gift Shop Dec. 5

OXFORD — The First Congregational Church of Oxford will welcome the holiday season with its annual Christmas Tea and Gift Shop on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., continuing a cherished tradition that has brought people together for more than 25 years.

The annual event offers visitors an opportunity to enjoy a traditional holiday tea, complete with fine China, a selection of premium loose-leaf teas and an assortment of homemade foods.

Organizers take pride in providing an authentic tea experience, serving selections purchased from Asiago Teas. Unlike traditional tea bags, loose-leaf tea allows guests to experience the flavors and aromas of carefully selected tea leaves.

Each serving is presented in a China teapot and poured into a China teacup, adding an elegant touch to the holiday gathering.

In addition to the tea selections, guests can enjoy a variety of homemade soups, sandwiches and desserts prepared for the occasion.

Several dining options will be available, with prices ranging from $6 for tea and dessert to $18 for a complete meal featuring soup, a sandwich, dessert and tea.

The Christmas Tea has been a longstanding holiday tradition at the church, offering an opportunity for friends, families and neighbors to gather during the busy Christmas season.

The event also includes a gift shop, providing visitors with an opportunity to browse while enjoying the festive occasion.