WEBSTER TIMES

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©2026, Issue #32 **Friday, August 7, 2026**

Polly Currier joins the Pearle as Youth Services Librarian

DUDLEY — Storytime just got even more exciting at the Pearle L. Crawford Public Library.

The Town of Dudley is pleased to welcome Polly Currier as our new Youth Services Librarian.

Currier brings more than a decade of experience inspiring young readers and creating engaging learning environments for children and families.

With more than 12 years of experience working with students in grades K–8, she brings a passion for literacy, creativity, and community engagement. She began her library career at Tantasqua Regional Junior High School. Prior to joining the Pearle, she served as the librarian at Leicester Elementary School.

"Her experience in youth services, education, and library programming will be a tremendous asset to our community," Library Director Nicole Messier said.

Currier holds a Master of Science in Library and Information Science from Simmons University, is a member of the prestigious Beta Phi Mu International Honor Society, and has earned both a

Massachusetts Certificate of Librarianship and a Massachusetts Academic Provisional Teaching

License. She is eager to build on the library's tradition of engaging Dudley's youngest residents.

"As I spend more time in the Children's Library, I hope to increase accessibility and foster a sense of community and discovery in even the youngest patrons," she said.

Currier's diverse background includes experience serving patrons of all ages in a variety of library settings, from K–8 schools to the Worcester Art Museum Library.

"Polly's experience, enthusiasm, and genuine love of helping young people discover the joy of reading make her a wonderful addition to the Pearle," Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda said.

"Our library is a special gathering place for Dudley families, and I know Polly will make story time, learning, and every visit to the Children's Library even more welcoming and memorable."

Whether it's introducing toddlers to their first story-

Turn To CURRIER *page* A6

Dudley first responders receive regional STORK Award for helping deliver baby girl

DUDLEY — The Town of Dudley is proud to recognize five first responders who were honored with the Central Massachusetts STORK Award for their extraordinary teamwork and compassionate care in helping safely deliver a baby girl during an emergency medical call earlier this year.

The award recipients are:

Officer Luis Pacheco, Dudley Police Department

Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Sheehan

Firefighter/Paramedic Alex Buck

Firefighter/Paramedic Cole McKinstry

Firefighter/Paramedic Nathaniel Bushain

On Sunday, May 3 at approximately 5:54 p.m., Officer Pacheco and Dudley EMS personnel

responded to a residence on Truman Drive for a report of a woman in active labor. Upon arriving, the team quickly assessed the situation and assisted the expectant mother with the delivery of a healthy baby girl before she could be transported to the hospital.

"Most emergency calls do not end with everyone smiling—or with Dudley welcoming a brand-new resident," Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda said. "This was an extraordinary moment, and Officer Pacheco and Firefighter/Paramedics Sheehan, Buck, McKinstry, and Bushain handled it exactly as we would expect: calmly, professionally, and with genuine compassion for the family."

The Central Massachusetts STORK Award recognizes emergency responders who demonstrate

exceptional professionalism, calmness, and compassionate care while assisting with out-of-hospital births. The award notes that it is "a rare privilege for EMS professionals to be present for life's most joyful moments" and commends recipients for their meaningful role in welcoming a new baby into the world.

During a recent Board of Selectmen meeting, Police Chief Marek Karlowicz highlighted the significance of the recognition.

"Last Friday, Central Mass EMS presented five STORK Awards to four firefighters and Officer Luis Pacheco," he said. "It's probably one of the scariest and happiest moments in a parent's life, and our officer and the four paramedics were there to help the parents through it."

Chief Karlowicz also issued a formal Letter of Commendation to Officer Pacheco, praising his prompt response, professionalism, and teamwork with Dudley EMS.

"Your prompt response, care, and combined teamwork with the Dudley EMS personnel successfully delivered a baby girl. In our line of work, we see a lot of tragic calls, but you were able to experience a life entering this world, one of the happiest moments in a mother's life," the Chief wrote.

He further noted that Officer Pacheco's actions, alongside those of Dudley Fire Department personnel, "reflect great credit upon yourself, this department, and the Town of Dudley."

Ruda agreed.

"Our police officers and firefighter/paramedics train every day to help people through some of the most difficult moments of their lives, so it is especially wonderful to celebrate a call that ended with the. arrival of a healthy baby girl. I could not be prouder of this team, and I suspect this may be the youngest person ever to receive the full Dudley public safety welcome," he said.

Historical Walking Tour markers installed in Webster

Courtesy

Members of the Webster Historical Commission are pictured by the Depot Village Marker. Missing are Chairman Ted Avlas and Library Assistant Director Evan Hale.

WEBSTER — Webster is steeped in history. To recognize its heritage and to celebrate America's 250th anniversary and the upcoming Webster 200th in 2032, the town Historical Commission recently created two Historical Walking Tour Markers.

To do this, they partnered with the Gladys E. Kelly Library, which has been highlighting Webster's history. In June, the library hosted a historical walk through downtown led by a U. S. Park Service Ranger.

The first marker, located by the mural on Main Street, describes Depot Village—the downtown area during its heyday. The second—which will be located on the right side of the Town Hall when that entrance on that side is repaired, describes

Turn To TOUR *page* A6

Two local foundations invest $70,000 in Our Bright Future's STEMing Into Sports Summer Program

WEBSTER/DUDLEY — Our Bright Future, Inc. is proud to announce two significant grants totaling $70,000 in support of its STEMing Into Sports Summer Program, reinforcing a shared commitment to providing life-changing educational opportunities for our local youth.

The Fels Family Foundation has awarded $45,000, while the Herman F. Becker Family Charitable Foundation has contributed $25,000 to help expand the innovative summer program that combines science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with athletics, leadership development, and social-emotional learning.

Now in its latest year, the STEMing Into Sports Summer Program has become one of Our Bright Future's signature initiatives, giving students hands-on experiences that inspire curiosity, build confidence, and prepare them for future careers. Through robotics, engineering challenges,

Turn To GRANTS *page* A6

PAWFECT LIFE rescue
Enjoy the day – run, fetch, play!

PAW of the WEEK
CHESTER
5 YR./53 LB./MALE/RETRIEVER/CATTLE DOG MIX

Hi, I'm Chester — I'm the kind of guy who will happily toss a toy around one minute and then roll over for belly rubs the next. I love my people deeply and bond closely with "my" humans. Once you're in my circle, you're in for life. I'm happiest when I'm playing, relaxing near you, or soaking up affection. I have a big heart, a playful streak, and a soft side that just wants to feel safe and loved.
A Few Honest Notes (Because Communication Matters)
I'm not a cat guy — it's just not my vibe.
I've been around other dogs at the rescue and have done fine, but I didn't have much proper socialization before coming here. When dogs rush up to me, I can feel unsure and a little overwhelmed. Because of that, I'd feel most confident being your one-and-only pup while I continue building skills and confidence at my own pace.

Vet visits used to make me nervous too — especially nail trims and being confined for exams. But guess what? I've made amazing progress. With the help of our awesome trainer, Jackie, I learned to file my own nails (yes, I'm basically a DIY king), and I've been muzzle trained so I can safely and successfully handle checkups and vaccinations! With a little medication beforehand and the right support, I'm doing so much better already. I'm proof that patience and training truly work.

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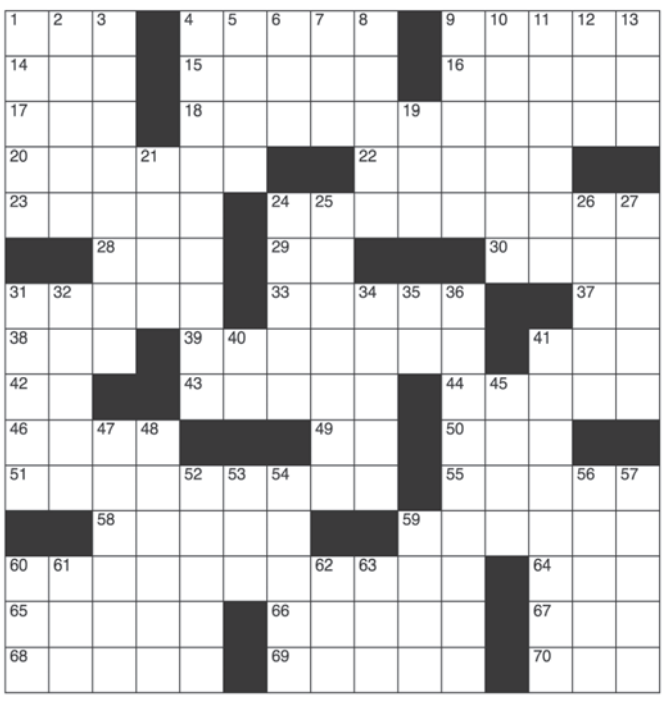

CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between south and southeast
4. Fathers
9. Wine grape
14. Al Bundy's wife
15. Derived from ammonia
16. Venezuelan state
17. Interest rate
18. Experts
20. Vascular tissues
22. Smooth and glossy
23. Administrative region in S. Korea
24. One from Damascus
28. Special interest group
29. It cools your home
30. Oh, God!
31. Intestinal pouches
33. Men
37. Twelfth star in a constellation
38. Former CIA
39. Arrange in grades of size
41. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
42. "The Great Lakes State"
43. Having earlike appendages
44. Momentarily stop
46. Ancient kingdom
49. Of I
50. White clerical vestment
51. Songs to one's beloved
55. Charges
58. Computer application originator
59. A place to dock a boat
60. One guided by reason
64. Slang for cigarette
65. Sailboats
66. "Jerry Maguire" actor Zellweger
67. Screen type
68. Country legend Haggard
69. Puts together in time
70. When you anticipate arriving

CLUES DOWN

1. Involuntary muscular contraction
2. Eastern US transit agency
3. Leaves a place
4. Cease to participate
5. Current units
6. Cease to exist
7. General's assistant (abbr.)
8. Earth vibration
9. Very strong winds
10. For each one
11. A bog
12. The creation of beautiful or significant things
13. Affirmative
19. Pie _ __ mode
21. Nonclerical
24. Indonesian island
25. Educational environment
26. Namibian peoples
27. Bring out or develop
31. Moves into a place of thought
32. Out of the way
34. Loads a ship
35. Beloved Hollywood alien
36. Distinguishes
40. The ancient Egyptian sun god
41. Secondary or explanatory title
45. Relating to a wing
47. One who gives a speech
48. In the middle
52. Loop with a running knot
53. Airborne (abbr.)
54. Sweet persons
56. Put into play
57. Small cattle breed
59. Millisecond
60. Revolutions per minute
61. They __
62. Moon crater
63. A place to stay the night

PUZZLE SOLUTION

Alley May Coté Dorgan to headline Keys for Kitties event

WEBSTER — Community Cat Connection will present Keys for Kitties, featuring Alley May Coté Dorgan (she/her/hers), an accomplished composer and multi-instrumentalist, in an exclusive piano performance. The performance will be held at Webster Federated Church of Christ, 4 Church St., at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 8.

The public is invited to join for an afternoon of music for all tastes and times. Attendees can enjoy neo-classical musical compilations featuring renditions of Green Day, Red Hot Chili Peppers, and Metallica in a whole new way. The concert will feature two 45-minute sets with a brief intermission, and light refreshments will be available. Audio or video recording and flash photography are not allowed during the performance.

All proceeds support Community Cat Connection, a no-kill nonprofit shelter. Tickets are

$10 each and can be purchased at the door the evening of the event or at Community Cat Connection (289 Thompson Rd. in Webster) during open hours. The shelter is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and you can call (508) 949-0779 for more information.

Coté Dorgan has been playing the piano for 40 years, composing for 32 years, and accompanying for 33 years. She has studied classical piano since her grandmother, JoAnn Milburn May, recognized her talent at age four.

Coté Dorgan attended Worcester State University on the Frédéric François Chopin scholarship and has also studied and performed at Queen's University in ingston,

Ontario, and Thayer Music Conservatory in Lancaster. She has appeared as a solo pianist, accompanist, composer, and arranger around the Worcester area, and has also composed and arranged neo-classical/new age solo piano music for special events.Alley has played drums in several bands and is a member of three semi-professional choruses: the MasterSingers of Worcester, co-founded by her grandmother in the 1970s; the Worcester Chorus; and the Sounds of Stow. She currently teaches piano at Guitar Center in Millbury. Her website is alleycote.wordpress.com.

Town of Charlton accepting applications for Opioid Settlement Funds Grant Program

CHARLTON — The Town of Charlton is accepting applications for funding through the Town's Opioid Settlement Funds Grant Program.

The purpose of this program is to support initiatives that prevent opioid misuse, expand access to treatment and recovery services, reduce the harms associated with substance use disorders, and improve the health and well-being of Charlton residents. Funding is made available through the Town's allocation of national opioid settlement funds and must be used for eligible purposes consistent with applicable settlement agreements and guidance. Funding may be requested to a maximum of $2,500 per applicant. Final awards will be distributed based on available funding as well as demonstrated need and community impact.

Eligible applicants may include:

Nonprofit organizations
Educational institutions
Healthcare providers
Community-based organizations
Other organizations serving Charlton residents

Projects may include, but are not limited to:

Prevention and education programs
Treatment and recovery support services
Harm reduction initiatives
First responder or public safety initiatives related to opioid response
Behavioral health and mental health services
Community outreach and support programs
Data collection, evaluation, and other evidence-based strategies that address opioid use disorder

Applications will be evaluated based on demonstrated community need, alignment with eligible opioid settlement uses, measurable outcomes, organizational capacity, and the anticipated impact on Charlton residents.

Completed applications and all required supporting documentation for the first round of this grant program must be submitted by Aug. 31. Late or incomplete applications may not be considered.

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Real Estate

AUBURN

$625,000, 6 Sunrise Ave, Szklarz, Cory, and Szklarz, Cory O, to Choe, Cindy, and Choe, Justin.

$475,000, 23 Ward St, Pamela Fleming 2025 Irt, and Carr, Carol, to Brazeau, James A, and Brazeau, Megan.

$410,000, 8 South Ter, Macphee, Nancy J, to Malyshev, Grigory, and Malyshev, Tatiana.

$382,000, 276 Central St, Call William F Est, and Daebler, Krisstine, to Bassil, Pauline, and Rizk, Charbel.

$320,000, 83 Shore Dr, Andrade, Robert, to Schwartz, Zachary.

DUDLEY

$750,000, 23 Brandon Rd, 23 Brandon Rd LLC, to Sam 23 Brandon Rd LLC.

$495,000, 13 Greenwood Ave, Tonkin, Mark, and Tonkin, Renee, to Sablak, Jennica Maria, and Carter, Gregory James.

$214,900, 25 George St #5, Grigware, Kaycie, to Escalante, Antonia M.

OXFORD

$410,000, 110-A Main St, Philippon, Brendan, and Philippon, Courtney, to Sickel, Courtney, and Hamel, Cole J.

$340,000, 69 Depot Rd #69, Depot Road Rt, and Gavin, Suzann, to Mcgrath, Shawn, and Mcgrath, Sharon.

$245,000, 11 Plantation St #11, Nedoroscik, Jacqueline L, to Puzio, Peter.

WEBSTER

$850,000, 6 Ridgewood Rd, Sullivan, Lorna G, to Pinheiro, Wagner.

$698,000, 7 Nipmuck Dr, Chaisson, Paul, and Johnson, Eric, to Beatty, Kelly.

$385,000, 20 Elaine St, Ekey Lawrence Henry Est, and Bomba, Emily Marie, to Boucher, David M, and Boucher, Dominica Marie.

$353,000, 8 Freeman Ave, Stone, Matthew, and Stone, Jesse, to Brennan Jr, William L.

$349,000, Haskell St, Monahan, Danielle, and Monahan, Ian, to Rivers, Corey, and Pacheco, Angeline.

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:
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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.

Overlook launches free summer concert series in Charlton

CHARLTON — Music lovers have six opportunities to enjoy live outdoor performances this summer as The Overlook hosts its annual Summer Concert Series on Tuesday evenings throughout July and into August.

The free concerts will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on the outdoor commons at The Overlook, 88 Masonic Home Rd., offering a variety of musical styles ranging from jazz and brass to classic rock and blues. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy an evening of live entertainment with family and friends. In the event of rain, performances will move indoors to the Performing Arts Center.

The Salty Sister Project Acoustic Trio will perform July 28, offering an evening of acoustic favorites and harmonies.

The series continues into August with The Reminisants on Aug. 4, bringing audiences back to the golden era of 1950s and 1960s rock and roll.

The final concert will be held Aug. 11, when The Lustre Kings perform a mix of blues, rhythm and blues, and rockabilly music.

The Summer Concert Series has become a popular seasonal tradition, offering residents and visitors an opportunity to gather outdoors and enjoy live music in a relaxed setting.

Admission is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 508-403-4987 or visit OverlookMass.org/events

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Shepherd Hill students hosting Tackle the Stigma 5K to promote mental health awareness

CHARLTON — The Shepherd Hill Regional High School cheerleading program, in partnership with the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District community, is inviting residents to lace up their running shoes and help break down barriers surrounding mental health during the annual Tackle the Stigma 5K and 2.5K Walk/Run on Saturday, Sept. 27.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. at the Shepherd Hill football field and is designed to raise awareness about mental health and mental wellness while encouraging open conversations throughout the local community.

Organizers hope participants of all ages will come together to demonstrate support for those facing mental health challenges and reinforce the message that no one has to struggle alone.

"This event is very important to us as we work to raise awareness about mental health and mental wellness throughout our local community," organizers said in announcing the event.

The walk and run carries the theme, "Run toward awareness, stand up for support, and tackle the stigma one mile at a time," reflecting its focus on education, compassion and community involvement.

Mental health advocates continue to emphasize the importance of reducing the stigma surrounding anxiety, depression and other mental health conditions, which can often prevent individuals from seeking help. Community events such as Tackle the Stigma aim to create a welcoming environment where conversations about mental wellness are encouraged and support resources are highlighted.

In addition to providing an opportunity for exercise and community engagement, the event serves as a reminder that mental health is an important part of overall well-being. Organizers hope the day will inspire participants to check in with friends, family members and neighbors while promoting a culture of understanding and acceptance.

The Shepherd Hill cheerleaders have made mental health awareness a priority, using the event to unite students, families, educators and community members around a common cause. By bringing together participants from across Dudley, Charlton and surrounding communities, they hope to build momentum for ongoing conversations that extend well beyond race day.

Whether participants choose the full 5-kilometer course or the shorter 2.5-kilometer walk/run, organizers say every step represents a commitment to supporting mental wellness and reminding those who may be struggling that help is available.

Registration information and additional event details are expected to be available through Shepherd Hill Regional High School and the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District as the event approaches.

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Auburn resident sets out to raise awareness for Frontotemporal Degeneration

REGION — The Jim Tobin Memorial is inviting the community to support two upcoming events dedicated to raising awareness of Frontotemporal Degeneration (FTD), advancing research, and advocating for families affected by the disease.

The Third Annual Jim Tobin Memorial Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Holden Hills Country Club. Registration is now open for foursomes at $500 per team, and individuals who do not golf are welcome to attend the Italian buffet lunch for $40 with advance registration. The event will also feature raffles, contests, and sponsorship opportunities. Net proceeds will benefit the Frontotemporal Disorders Research Center at UMass Chan Medical School and The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD).

On Sunday, Sept. 6, Auburn resident and David Prouty High School graduate Devyn Tobin will take on the "From Lab to Legislator" Walk, a 40-mile one-man journey from UMass Chan Medical School in Worcester to the Massachusetts State House in Boston. Wearing a 40-pound weighted vest to symbolize the weight FTD places on families, he hopes to increase public awareness, support research, and encourage legislative action for those living with Frontotemporal Degeneration.

Both events honor the memory of Jim Tobin, a longtime Spencer resident, Air Force veteran, husband, father, and grandfather who lived with FTD. Many members of the Tobin family, including Jim's wife, continue to call Spencer home and hope the community will join them in honoring Jim's legacy and supporting efforts to improve the lives of families affected by FTD.

For golf registration, sponsorship information, or to learn more about the awareness walk, contact jimtobinmemorial@gmail.com or visit the Jim Tobin Memorial social media pages.

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Stonebridge Press President and Publisher

Brendan Berube
Editor

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*

Editorial

A life welcomed, a community reassured

Most people associate police officers, firefighters, and paramedics with moments of crisis. They arrive when tragedy strikes, when accidents happen, or when someone's worst day suddenly unfolds. Their work often takes place under circumstances most of us hope we never experience.

Every so often, however, those same professionals are called to witness life's happiest moments.

The recent recognition of five Dudley first responders with the Central Massachusetts STORK Award is one of those rare and uplifting stories that reminds us why public service matters. Officer Luis Pacheco and Firefighter/Paramedics Daniel Sheehan, Alex Buck, Cole McKinstry, and Nathaniel Bushain were not simply responding to an emergency on Truman Drive this past May. They were helping welcome a new life into the world.

Few situations demand greater composure than an unexpected childbirth outside of a hospital. There is little room for hesitation, and no opportunity to ask for a second chance. Every decision matters. Every action must be calm, deliberate, and compassionate.

That is exactly what happened.

The awards recognize more than medical skill. They honor teamwork, professionalism, and the ability to provide reassurance during one of the most emotional moments a family can experience. Those qualities often go unnoticed because they are quietly displayed every day by emergency responders across our communities.

Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda made an important observation when he noted that most emergency calls do not end with smiles. Police officers and paramedics routinely encounter heartbreaking situations that leave lasting impressions on everyone involved. They carry those experiences with them while continuing to answer the next call, regardless of what awaits.

That reality makes moments like this especially meaningful.

Chief Marek Karlowicz also captured the significance of the event when he described it as both one of the scariest and happiest moments in a parent's life. For the new family, what began as an emergency became a story they will undoubtedly tell for generations. Their daughter's first welcome into the world came not in a delivery room, but through the capable hands of neighbors who had dedicated themselves to serving others.

Communities often measure public safety by response times, equipment, or budgets. Those things certainly matter. But the true strength of a public safety department lies in the people who wear the uniforms. Their character, preparation, and compassion cannot be purchased or easily measured.

Awards like the STORK Award serve another important purpose. They remind residents that behind every badge and every ambulance is a person committed to helping others, regardless of the circumstances. Whether responding to a house fire, a medical emergency, or an unexpected birth, these professionals bring the same level of dedication to every call.

The baby born that evening will likely never remember the extraordinary circumstances surrounding her arrival. One day, however, she will hear the story of how five local first responders helped bring her safely into the world, and how an entire town celebrated that remarkable beginning.

Communities need stories like this. They remind us that while emergency services exist to respond to danger, they also stand ready to protect life's greatest joys. In a profession often defined by loss and hardship, it is fitting to pause and celebrate a call that ended with a healthy newborn, grateful parents, and five deserving recipients of an honor that reflects the very best of public service.

Dudley should be proud of these first responders. Their actions represent the professionalism, compassion, and quiet excellence that communities depend upon every day, whether the call ends in tragedy or, as it thankfully did this time, with the first cries of a brand-new resident.

Hitchcock's Summer Concert Series rocks Brimfield Town Common on Wednesday evenings

BRIMFIELD — The Hitchcock Summer Concert Series sponsored by Country Bank will take place on Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m., through Aug. 19 on the Brimfield Town Common. In the case of rain, concerts will move to Thursday. A food truck will be on site at each event. Picnics are also welcome; chairs and blankets are encouraged.

The series kicks off on July 1 with Woodshed, bringing Acoustic Folk, Country & Americana. Members Jason Wood of Brimfield, along with A.J. Kiernan, Karen Gallant, and Mike St. Germain are four musical friends who found each other through a love of music and mutual admiration, and are known for their signature three-part harmony. BT's Smokehouse will be on site.

Aug. 5 brings the Brimfield debut of The Willies - a popular, community-focused classic rock and Americana band based out of Belchertown. The band performs across the Western Mass region, playing high-energy hits from the 1950s through the 1980s, modern country, and rock standards. Flippin' the Bird BBQ returns for this concert.

Long-time series favorite CobbleStone Road of Connecticut returns on August 12th with high-energy country. Well-known throughout the region for playing modern and classic country hits from the 1990s to today, their energetic style mixes classic country with rock and blues. Smashing Patties will have their concert series debut this evening.

The series closes out on Aug. 19 with Hard Knox, a Westfield, Massachusetts-based party rock and cover band known for their high-energy shows and "forgotten classics" setlist. Instead of regular cover tunes, they play unique, underappreciated gems from the '70s and '80s, making them a fixture in the Western Mass and Northern Connecticut music scenes. BT's Smokehouse will return to bookend this year's food truck lineup.

In addition to Presenting Sponsor Country Bank, this program is supported in part by a grant from the Brimfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

Hitchcock Summer Concert Series At-a-Glance:

Aug. 5 The Willies '50s, '60s, '70s & more! | Flippin' the Bird BBQ

Aug 12 CobbleStone Road Country | Smashing Patties

Aug. 19 Hard Knox Classic sounds of the '70s, '80s, & '90s | BT's

For more information, visit www.hitchcock-academy.org. Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Rd. in Brimfield serving the community with educational, recreational, and cultural programming.

Courtesy

As our mission is preserving history related to Auburn, we've embarked on a project to honor and remember those who served from town, but we need the public's help! There's only so much information we can find on a person from their obituary, or standardized records, so we're asking you to help us. We've created a Google Form where Veterans or their families and friends can add their name, service history, and any biographical information to our Veterans database.

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 the form, which can be found here: Auburn Veterans Project – https://forms.gle/mBbo65JjBD91yJHbA.

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 empty parking space

Lanterns Along Main Street

By CHARLES

I pulled into a crowded parking lot last week and did what most of us do. I started looking for the closest available space. There wasn't one. So I circled once. Still nothing.

By the second lap, I noticed something interesting. Every driver seemed to be doing exactly what I was doing. We were all hunting for the perfect spot while dozens of perfectly good spaces sat empty just a little farther away. I finally gave up, parked near the edge of the lot, and walked. It took all of about 45 seconds.

By the time I reached the front door, several of the cars that had passed me were still circling. It made me wonder why we're so determined to save a few extra steps.

When we were kids, walking wasn't something we tried to avoid. We'd think nothing of hiking across a field to visit a friend or riding a bicycle halfway across town because someone said there might be a pickup baseball game.

Now many of us will spend five minutes searching for a parking place that saves us 30 seconds of walking. I'm as guilty as anyone.

There's something strangely satisfying about finding that front-row space. It feels like winning a prize, even though the prize is usually a walk that's shorter than the average television commercial. The funny part is what happens when you park farther away. You notice things.

You see flowers planted along the sidewalk that you would have driven right past. You hear conversations instead of engines. You notice the small independent businesses tucked between larger stores. Sometimes you even run into someone you haven't seen in years because you're both walking instead of rushing from one door to another.

Those extra few steps become part of the outing instead of something to be avoided. I suppose that's true of a lot of life.

We're always looking for shortcuts. Faster internet. Faster checkout lines. Faster shipping. Faster routes around traffic. We measure success by how quickly we can get from one thing to the next.

But not everything improves by speeding it up. Some conversations are worth lingering over. Some roads are worth taking because they're scenic instead of efficient. Some Saturday mornings deserve to unfold without constantly checking the clock.

Living in New England reminds us of that every season. Nobody hurries through the first blaze of autumn color. People stop to watch a fresh snowfall. We pull over for covered bridges and scenic overlooks even when we're already running a little late.

Those moments aren't productive by any measurable standard. They're simply enjoyable. Maybe that's why I didn't mind the longer walk after all.

The parking lot gave me a few extra minutes outside on a pleasant afternoon. I watched a family loading pumpkins into the back of a pickup. An older couple strolled toward the garden center without seeming to be in any hurry. A little boy proudly carried a loaf of bread that was almost as long as his arm.

None of those moments would have registered if I'd found that perfect parking space. I still like parking close to the door. Old habits don't disappear overnight. But every now and then, the best spot in the lot isn't the closest one. It's the one that reminds us slowing down is sometimes the shortest path to enjoying the day.

Free concert at Jacob Edwards Library

SOUTHBRIDGE — The StarCats jazz trio will perform a free concert called Day Dream at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday Aug. 20 at the Jacob Edwards Library, Southbridge.

A delightfully eclectic New England jazz trio, the StarCats was formed in 2017 by vocalist Sarah Clay with the vision to make jazz more fun, accessible, and entertaining for everyone. The StarCats create a new themed concert program each year. For 2026, the StarCats present Day Dream. Where do you go when your mind wanders? Sweet reverie, thoughts of love? Or rueful rumination? There's music for every mood.

Inspired by the public outreach of Winton Marsalis, the vocal brilliance of Ella Fitzgerald, and the humor of Mose Allison, the StarCats intertwine standards by greats like Duke Ellington and Thelonius Monk, Bossa Nova by Jobim, and arrangements of Stevie Wonder, Sarah Bareilles, Joni Mitchell and Soundgarden. You'll hear swinging Retro-pop, spicy Latin rhythms, soul-aching ballads and mellow blues.

Sarah Clay (vocals/flute) thrills with expressive, crystalline tone and sultry flute. Bob Ferrier (guitar) sparks joy with tasty chords and playful improvisation. Steve Bulmer (upright bass) lays down a sweet, rhythmic groove that soothes the soul.

"The StarCats are magnificent! Sarah's scat and flawless range... ingenious bass riffs... fingers dancing up down the guitar... I left inspired and uplifted," says Rev. Pirtle, Westhampton.

The StarCats have performed at the Northampton Jazz Festival, the Litchfield Sunrise Concert Series, the Pittsfield Jazz Festival, the 1794 Meetinghouse, Workshop 13, Summer on Strong Street Festival, the Westfield Athenaeum, the Berkshire Athenaeum, and more.

This concert is supported in part by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Annual Zucchini Festival returns to Holland Aug. 16

HOLLAND — The Friends of the Holland Community Center will once again host their Annual Zucchini Festival at the Holland Community Center at 40 Brimfield Rd. in Holland. The event will take place on Sunday, Aug. 16 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Admission is free, and there is something for everyone to enjoy.

We will have a bake sale, raffle table, a "spin the wheel" for prizes for the kiddos, a zucchini "cook off" contest, and a foam machine for kids and adults alike to run through to cool off.

The Holland Fire Department will once again be on hand (unless they are called away) with at least one of their fire trucks to check out, and our giant chess set and cornhole will be set up if you wish to use them.

Scout Troop #163 will be selling hot dogs and drinks, and Angry Panda and O'Neil's Lemonade will also be on site.

Visitors can browse plenty of booths inside and outside, where both new and returning vendors will offer jewelry, local honey, and homemade items of every kind imaginable.

It will be a great opportunity for you to bring your redeemable bottles and cans to drop off in our bin to the left of the building.

There is something for everyone, so we hope you will join us for this family friendly fun-filled afternoon. For more information, please call the Center at 413-245-3163 or email us at friendsofholland@gmail.com.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of July 26 to Aug. 1.

Andrew Charles Eaton, age 35, of Douglas was arrested on July 26 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor) and Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Jeffrey Peter Devault, age 57, of Webster was arrested on July 26 in connection with a warrant.

Wendy A. Lahey, age 56, of Webster was arrested on July 27 for Trespassing and multiple counts of Misdemeanor Breaking & Entering.

Donald Christopher Germain, age 70, of Webster was arrested on July 28 in connection with multiple warrants.

Kristen Patricia White, age 49, of Webster was arrested on July 28 in connection with a warrant.

Curtis J. Coonan, age 32, of Worcester was arrested on July 29 in connection with an out of agency warrant.

Suzette Kuszewksi, age 42, of Webster was arrested on July 29 in connection with multiple warrants.

Reyngel Gonzalez, age 30, of Spencer was arrested on July 30 in connection with a warrant.

Robert Henri Ouellette, age 70, of Webster was arrested on July 30 in connection with a warrant.

Anna Szwarc, age 42, of Webster was arrested on July 30 in connection with multiple warrants.

A 34-year-old male from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on July 31 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Paul Godlewski, age 59, of Webster was arrested on Aug. 1 in connection with a warrant.

Troop 163 hosting ice cream social & open house

STURBRIDGE — Do you like camping, hiking, swimming, biking, fishing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, sailing, exploring with friends, and more? You might like being a scout! Come to an ice cream social and open house held by Troop 163, an all-girl troop of Scouting America. Learn about lassoing and how to use a sling shot, and other activities. Families are welcome. Please stop by, have fun, and learn about scouting and our troop.

The ice cream social and open house will be held on Sunday, Aug. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 345 Main St. in Sturbridge. The troop is open to girls aged 11-17, and while based in Sturbridge, is open to residents of any town. Please email troop-163sturbridge@gmail.com with any questions.

www.StonebridgePress.com

ARTHRITIS?

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

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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.

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Gladys E. Kelly Library
2 Lake St, Webster MA
Monday thru Friday
12 PM to 1 PM
July 7th through Aug 14th

Park Ave Elementary (Cafeteria)
58 Park Ave, Webster MA
Monday thru Friday
12 PM to 1 PM
July 7th through July 31st

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OBITUARIES

Cheryl A. Manchuk, 69

FORT MYERS, FL – Cheryl A. (Korch) Manchuk, 69, formerly of Webster, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, surrounded by love. She leaves her devoted husband of 50 years, Paul M. Manchuk, Sr.; a daughter, April L. Smith; a son, Paul M. Manchuk, Jr.; and a grandson, Brady P. Smith. She was born on July 10, 1956 in Worcester, a daughter of Edward and Lillian (Zachara) Korch and graduated from Bartlett High School in Webster in 1974. She lived in Webster for most of her life before moving to Fort Myers two years ago after decades of enjoying family vacations there. Throughout her life, Cheryl was known for her kindness, compassion and unwavering dedication to others. She spent many years working with special education students in the Webster School System before continuing her career in the financial industry. No matter where life took her, she always cared deeply for those around her. Her love extended beyond people to animals, especially her devoted dog Bailey who undoubtedly greeted her with a wagging tail. The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Peter Moussa and his team at Moffit Cancer Center in Tampa and also to the compassionate care givers at Avow Hospice House in Naples whose extraordinary kindness and support brought Cheryl and her family comfort, dignity and peace. A funeral Mass to celebrate her life will be held on Friday, August 21, at 11:00 AM in Saint Louis Church, 15 Lake Street, Webster, MA (please meet at the church). The family will greet relatives and friends beginning at 10:30 AM in the church Friday, prior to the Mass. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to The Jimmy Fund at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 (jimmyfund.org/gift). Local arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster, MA. www.websterfunerals.com

Joanne F. Diani, 83

OXFORD – Joanne F. (Yablonski) Diani, 83, of Harvard Street, died Sunday, July 26, 2026, at Brookside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Webster.

She was predeceased by her husband of 8 years, Harry Diani who died in 1996; and her brother, Joseph J. Yablonski. She is survived by two children, Tracey A. Moock of Oxford, and Joseph C. Sippach and his wife Robyn of Lehigh Acres, FL; three grandchildren, Vincent P. Barlow of Oxford, Amanda Smith and her husband Anthony of Fort Myers, FL, and Sonia Sippach of Lehigh Acres, FL; and two great-grandchildren.

She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Joseph and Florence M. (Simanavich) Yablonski, and lived in Oxford since 1983. She graduated from North High School in Worcester.

Mrs. Diani worked in the electronics department at Walmart in Oxford for many years, retiring in 2008. She was a member of the American Legion Post 58 Ladies Auxiliary in Oxford. She loved spending time at the beach and caring for her cats.

Memorial calling hours wee Monday, August 3, 2026, from 6-8 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. Burial will be private at a later date at Notre Dame Cemetery in Worcester. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion Post 58, c/o Ladies Auxiliary, 227 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540, or to the MSPCA, ATTN: Donations, 350 South Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130.

Charles A Bonneau Jr.

Charles A Bonneau Jr. passed away October 10th, 2025. He passed peacefully at home in Deland, Fl. with family present. He was born on May 20th, 1947 to parents Charles and Alice Bonneau. He is preceded in death by his parents and sister Jeanne Rivers. He leaves his partner and soul mate Barbara Fongeallaz, and his nephews Andy and Scott Duzlak. He was a Marine veteran, serving in Vietnam. He also worked at Cranston Print Works for over 20 years. He enjoyed working in the yard, fishing, cooking, and camping on the Cape.

A celebration of life will be held at All Faith Cemetery in Worcester, MA. on August 20th, at 1:00 PM. Please bring your fond memories of Charles to share. Thank you, and God Bless you.

Kathanne Harter Webster
26 Apr 1930 - 11 Jul 2026

Our beautiful Mom left us on Saturday the 11th of July at the age of 96. We will honor her privately this week and hope to hold a more extensive memorial next summer.

A great lady, she was Kathanne, Kate, even Annie to some; to most she was Kathy, and to us Maman, Mom, Mama, Nanni.

After graduating in Physics from Wellesley College, she worked at Harvard University, but chose to devote her life to her husband Richard (Dick) and to raising a family abroad. She was bold and courageous in all her undertakings, learning fluent French and adapting to life in Paris in the 50s and 60s. Over 55 years as a US expat, she lived in France, Belgium and the United Kingdom. Her volunteering skills led to commendations from the US State Department for her work on voting rights and citizenship transmission for all Americans living abroad. She is widely loved and much celebrated in American Women's clubs across the globe.

Kathy is remembered as a highly intelligent and beautiful lady - graceful and always elegant, an unparalleled hostess, an accomplished reader and speaker, thus setting a really high bar for all around her. Strong willed, determined and opinionated, she was an inspiration to many and certainly paved the way for us daughters to become spirited women in our own rights.

She will be missed by her many friends and relatives. She leaves behind a cosmopolitan family of four daughters (Claire in France, Susan in CT, Lucy in RI, Amy in Switzerland), ten grandchildren (Olivia, Daniel, Aymeric, Severin, Bastien, Georgia, Salomé, Celia, Loriane, Julia) and fifteen great-grandchildren (Sacha, Ella, Isidore, Elina, Eli, Marlo, Côme, Aria, Jane, Isla, Ascanio, Alma, Lawrence, Oliver, Lia). Plus our spouses, whom she also loved dearly.

Our gratitude and love for Mom/ Mama/ Nanni are limitless and eternal.

TOUR
continued from page A1

the history of the municipal area. The two markers have QR codes which when operational will lead you to the Commission's Website and more information on the walking tour.

A third marker already exists. It can be found in the gazebo by the French River. It lays out a timeline for the town and photo highlights of Webster over the decades. The Webster Historical Commission plans to add additional signs in the future to cover other important areas, such as North Village and the actual train depot.

GRANTS
continued from page A1

coding, financial literacy, health and wellness activities, team sports, and mentorship from professionals, participants develop the skills they need to succeed both inside and outside the classroom.

"These generous investments from the Fels Family Foundation and the Herman F. Becker Family Charitable Foundation will have a lasting impact on the lives of the young people we serve," said Kwasi Acheampong, Founder and Executive Director of Our Bright Future. "Because of their support, more students will have access to high-quality STEM education, positive mentors, and experiences that encourage them to dream bigger, work harder, and discover their full potential."

The funding will help provide scholarships for students, educational supplies, STEM equipment, and enrichment activities, ensuring that financial barriers never prevent a child from participating.

Since its founding in 2016, Our Bright Future has empowered thousands of young people through innovative educational programming designed to close opportunity gaps and inspire the next generation of leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers. The organization continues to expand its impact through strategic partnerships with schools, businesses, colleges, foundations, and community organizations. The generosity of the Fels Family Foundation and the Herman F. Becker Family Charitable Foundation demonstrates the important role that philanthropic partnerships play in strengthening communities and investing in the future of local youth.

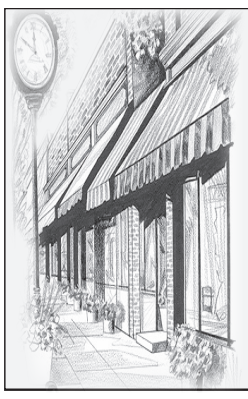
Our Bright Future extends its heartfelt gratitude to both foundations for believing in its mission and helping create brighter futures for our students. Their support will ensure that young people continue to have access to transformative educational experiences that foster academic achievement, leadership, teamwork, and lifelong success.

CURRIER
continued from page A1

book, helping students discover a favorite series, or creating programs that bring families together, Polly says she looks forward to making the Children's Library a welcoming place where curiosity grows and imaginations flourish.

Polly Currier

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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The Library is closed on Saturdays from July 4th – Labor Day

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

Special Events
Summer Eats – Monday-Friday 12:00-1:00pm
This totally free-of-charge program provides free lunch to all kids and teens. Adults can also eat lunch for $5. If weather is poor, this program will be held inside. Made possible by Project Bread, the Massachusetts Department of Education, and local school and community meal providers.

Family Capoeira Workshop Series – Thursdays, June 25th-August 20th at 3:00pm
Capoeira is an Afro-Brazilian martial art form originally developed in Brazil by enslaved peoples as a form of resistance. It incorporates elements of acrobatics, dance, and music. In this class, parents and kids will learn together — beginning with basic capoeira movements, songs and rhythms.
No experience needed, and all athletic levels are welcome! Come ready to move and wear something comfortable. The class is led by instructors from Mass Capoeira Culture Center, located right here in Webster. See you there!

Sultana Performs "History and Legends through Song" – Thursday, August 6th at 6:30pm
Performing as the duo, Sultana, Jon and Li Waterman weave history and original songs to feature a rotating array of real and legendary characters and happenings throughout history. The program visits the first known museum and the earliest known author from the ancient world, a character from Arthurian legend from the Middle Ages, from Colonial Massachusetts the captivity story of Hannah Duston, from the Industrial Age the New England Shoemakers Strike, and more.

Summer Reading Send-Off – Thursday, August 13th at 4:30pm
Celebrate all of your hard work this summer at our Summer Reading Send-Off! This send-off event will feature free ice cream for Summer Reading participants, balloon animals, great music, and adorable Alpacas to pet.

Book Bedazzling for Adults – Thursday, August 13th at 6:00pm
Join Jess for a book bedazzling program for adults. Bring in your favorite paperback, or choose from our selection, and be prepared to do some tedious (but fun) sparkly work. Registration is required.

Storytime and Blueberries at Lapsley Orchard – Friday, August 14th at 1:00pm
It's blueberry picking season! Join us for a special event at the Lapsley Orchard in Pomfret, CT as families enjoy a story, a small craft, and then pick some blueberries to bring home. Families who register should meet Miss Paige and Jess at Lapsley Orchard 10 minutes prior to the program to check in. Free parking is available on premise. Registration is required.

How to do Business with the State of Massachusetts: A Practical Guide for Brazilian Entrepreneurs – Monday, August 17th at 6:00pm and Thursday, August 27th at 11:00am
In this workshop, you'll learn how public contracting works in Massachusetts, what certifications and registrations are required, where to find bid opportunities, and the first steps to becoming eligible to work with state and local agencies. We'll discuss common misconceptions, practical tips, and resources available to help small businesses compete successfully. This session is designed for Brazilian entrepreneurs who want to expand their business, diversify their clients, and better understand how to access the public sector. No previous experience with government contracts is required. **Please note, this presentation will be offered in Portuguese**
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 and Generations in Webster
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.**Saturday Session in August will be held offsite at Generations in Webster.**

Yoga – Tuesdays at 6:30pm
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.

Worcester County Sherriff's Office Hour – Friday, August 7th at 9:00am
The Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Webster Regional Resource Center offers a variety of support services including; support groups, case management, education (including Hi-Set), employment opportunities, health insurance assistance, MA State ID/B.Cert, substance use and mental health referrals, transportation, recovery coaching and overall support. Their friendly case managers will be offering support the first Friday of every month from 9-10am.

Cookbook Club – Wednesday, August 12th at 6:00pm
Join our cookbook club this month as we make recipes from the same book. In August we're reading Let's Party by Dan Pelosi.

Computer Basics – Friday, August 14th at 11:00am
Our focus this month is: Files! Need help with file types, organizing and sharing them? Come learn some computer basics with Assistant Director Evan Hale and Adult Services Librarian Jess Fontaine. Bring your phone or tablet! Registration is required.

Adult Book Group – Wednesday, August 19th at 6:30pm
Join the adult book group for their monthly book discussion! In August we are reading The Place of Tides by James Rebanks.

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

Puzz Fest – Thursday, August 20th at 6:00pm
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. Registration is required.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
Sensory Bin Explorations – Mondays at 10:30am
Bring your little ones outside for sensory bin exploration! Each Monday morning will feature a new theme, offering hands-on fun for children ages 2–6.

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! August's Theme: Friendship Bracelets! Kids will make their own bracelets to share with family and friends. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children's program room for the rest of the month.

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.

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm
Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, marble runs, and more!

Messy Art Storytime – Thursdays at 10:30am
Join Miss Paige for storytime and messy, hands-on fun! Each week, children ages 2–6 will enjoy a new art project that lets their creativity shine. Dress for a mess and get ready to create! No registration required.

Apple Country Music Together – Fridays, July 10th-August 14th at 10:30am
A music and movement program available to children from birth to age 6 and their families based upon on-going scientific research, and designed to help nurture children's musical, cognitive, social, emotional, and physical growth. Classes include singing and dancing. The program brings families together by providing a rich musical environment in the classroom and by promoting and facilitating adult participation.

Oxford Senior Center

323 Main St.
(508)987-6000
Laura Wilson, Director

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Email: seniorcenter@oxford-ma.us
Website: www.oxfordma.us
Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center
Monthly CHATTER Newsletter www.oxfordma.us

The senior center will be closing early on Thursday, August 20th for staff training

Weekly Activities:
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 am – Cribbage
Tuesdays @ 9:15am – 10:00 am Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost $3.00 per class
Wednesdays @ 9:15am – 10:15 am Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost $3.00 per class
Tuesdays @ 10:15 am - Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint)
Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.
Wednesdays @ 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay seated (2) have fun!
Thursdays @ 10:00 am – 12:00 pm Dominoes

Monthly Activities:
Let's Talk Oxford History – 2nd Tuesday of each month @ 1pm - Sponsored by the Oxford Historical Commission
Men's Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30am – coffee and pastry are served.
Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library
Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @12:45pm – August movie "ROOFMAN"
Senior Safety with Oxford Fire/EMS - 3rd Friday of the month @ 12:30pm
BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45pm – arrive by 12:30pm to purchase your BEANO sheets.

Job Opportunity:
Culinary Supervisor-
12-16 hours per week/ Tuesday and Fridays a MUST
ServSafe Food Protection Manager, Allergen Awareness, CPR/FA a MUST
For full job description and to apply go to www.oxfordma.us

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, 8/11: Burgers with peppers and onions, pasta salad, sweet potato fries. Wednesday, 8/12: Chicken piccata, lemon seasoned rice, jardinière vegetables. Thursday, 8/13: Baked potatoes with chili and cheese, broccoli. Friday, 8/14: Soup du jour, cranberry chicken salad, pasta salad.
Need Transportation? Contact SCM Elderbus at 1-800-321-0243 at least two business days in advance to schedule transportation. Elderbus is available Mondays- Fridays 8:30 am- 3:00 pm.
A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Webster Senior Center from April through December. Please call (508) 949-3845 to schedule an appointment.
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.
Line Dancing with Forty will be held on the 17th, 24th, and 31st from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm for $3 a class. Donations go directly to Shriner's Children's Hospital. Everyone of any skill level is welcome! Closed toed shoes are required.
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! August movies include "Easy Rider" on 8/12, "Magnificent Seven" on 8/19, and "The Great Escape" on 8/26.
Do you like to play Cribbage? Our weekly Cribbage group meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm. Feel free to join us!
Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center! Come join us for six-card or thirteen-card pitch! Six-card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.
Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm. Beginners welcome!
We now have an official Bridge group! We will be meeting every Friday from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm in the upstairs activity room. 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.

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308lakeside.com
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New Summer Menu & Hours (11-9)

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Sydrick Speight, Angela Speight to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Caliber Home Loans, Inc., dated October 5, 2018 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 59513, Page 137, as modified by a certain modification agreement recorded on February 26, 2025, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 71675, Page 101 and as affected by a judgment recorded with said Registry on May 5, 2026, in Book No. 73533, at Page 226, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Caliber Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns to Caliber Home Loans, Inc., recorded on August 19, 2019, in Book No. 60899, at Page 74

Caliber Home Loans, Inc. to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on August 16, 2024, in Book No. 70901, at Page 16

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on September 9, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 24 Perry Street, Auburn, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land in Auburn, on the Southeasterly side of Perry Street, in Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the most northerly corner thereof at a stake and nail set in the southeasterly line of Perry Street and at Lot #2 on a plan hereinafter referred to:

Thence South 53° 30' East, 372.08 feet by said Lot #2 to a stake and nail at land now or formerly of Israelson;

Thence South 56° 15' West 78.66 feet to a stone bound;

Thence South 51° 32' West 85.7 feet to a point at land now or formerly of Holstrom;

Thence North 53° 30' West 311.5 feet by said Holstrom land to the southeasterly line of Perry Street;

Thence Northeasterly 66 feet by said line of Perry Street to a stone bound set in an angle in said street line;

Thence North 27° 21' East 93.5 feet by said line of Perry Street to the point of beginning.

Being Lots 1 and 103 as partly shown on a plan of property of Florence M. Pinsonneault, Perry Street, Auburn, Massachusetts, June l8, 1949, by F.B. Cullinan, Registered Land Surveyor, recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 204, Plan 81.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 59513, Page 134.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Ten Thousand ($10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
28289
August 7, 2026
Auguat 14, 2026
Augsut 21, 1206

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002424
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
Kelly L. Oliveira, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Gail A. Fleming a/k/a Gail Morton; Kelly L. Oliveira; Kimberly J. Rizzo
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Longbridge Financial LLC
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Auburn, numbered 28 Rock Avenue, given by Gail Morton to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Longbridge Financial, LLC, dated September 16, 2021, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 66630, Page 114 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 September 14, 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 July 29, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
29715
August 7, 2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET NO. 26 SM 000367
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: Jessica A. O'Connell a/k/a Jessica Moody
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Fremont Home Loan Trust 2006-3, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-3
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 6 McKinstry Drive, given by Jessica A. O'Connell to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Fremont Investment & Loan, its successors and assigns, dated August 24, 2006, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39668, Page 143, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated September 20, 2013, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 55089, Page 125, and further affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated December 21, 2022, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 68938, Page 241, 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 09/07/2026 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 7/23/2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
August 7, 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.WO26P1342EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Laurel Henderson
Date of Death:09/05/2025

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **S/A- Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Diane H Myers of Miami FL r**equesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 08/25/2026.**
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: July 29, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 7, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO25P3451PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT
In the matter of:
Nemiah Hibbert
Of: Worcester, MA
Protected Person/Disabled Person/ Respondent

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 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 the ac-count(s).** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appear-ance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M on the return date of **08/18/2026** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).
Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court
You have the right to send to the Con-servator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you

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: July 22, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
August 7, 2026

(SEAL)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
26 SM 002391
ORDER OF NOTICE
TO:
John Greenwood
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):
Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB not in its individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee of CSMC 2022- RPL4 Trust
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 47 West Avenue, given by John Greenwood to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First American Mortgage Corp., dated October 6, 2006, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 39938, Page 277 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 September 7, 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 July 27, 2026.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
29591
August 7, 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.WO26P2366EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Carolyn Pinter
Date of Death: 06/08/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Westborough Healthcare of Westborough MA r**equesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that: .
Mark Roland of Rockland MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate in u**nsupervised 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 08/25/2026.**
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: July 27, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 7, 2026

For Legal Advertising Information Call 508-909-4127 email: legals@ stonebridge press.news

Badger & Nault coming to Jacob Edwards Library

SOUTHBRIDGE — The Jacob Edwards Library presents Badger & Nault live in concert on Thursday, Aug. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m. This event is free and is open to the public.

Badger & Nault are an old-time acoustic duo based in central Massachusetts featuring banjo, accordion and vocal harmonies. Freddy Badger is an old-time banjo player, guitarist, and singer; in the American/Western European roots music tradition. While he is a native of Ashland, based on his musical style you could easily believe he is from somewhere in the Appalachian Mountains circa 1920.

Bridget Nault is an accordion player, guitarist and singer out of Worcester. She is a Berklee educated musician who has appeared all over the state (and beyond) playing her original songs and performing solo and in different bands. Together this duo will play a selection of old-time and traditional songs spanning from the 16th century through the early 20th century, with a focus on the Scot, Irish and English music that was brought to Appalachia during that time period. Along with the music itself, Badger & Nault are passionate about the song histories, and will discuss the origins of the music they play throughout the performance.

This program is supported by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency funded by Massachusetts Cultural Council a state agency.

Drought conditions prompt water restrictions

SOUTHBRIDGE/CHARLTON — The Massachusetts Drought Task for issues a Level -2 Significant Drought status for Worcester County. The Town of Southbridge now has to require that all Southbridge and Charlton water customers refrain from all outside water use except for handheld watering between the hours of 5 and 9 p.m. Please turn off all outside sprinkler systems.

This declaration from the State also applies to homes with private wells.

Certain water uses are not subject to restrictions such as production of food and fiber, health and

safety reasons, maintenance of livestock, and core functions of a business (for example irrigation

for a nursery).

For the general public's information, Currently the Southbridge Water Departments reservoir

system is at 100.1 percent of total capacity. This is within our historical average for this time of year.

The declaration is a county wide declaration, and not due to any current water storage shortfalls

within the Southbridge Water Department. This declaration is part of new laws and regulations

put forth by the State legislature, and enforcement went into effect in April of 2025.

To be clear, the Southbridge Water department is not experiencing any water

storage shortages currently.

The declaration of Level- 2 significant drought will remain in effect until the State Drought Task Force deems that the conditions within Worcester Country have returned to acceptable levels.

More information can be found at https://www.mass.gov/orgs/drought-management-task-force

Please feel free to contact the Southbridge Water Department at 508-764-3207 if you have any

questions or concerns.

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 5 Hammond Street, Oxford, MA 01540

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Lenda D. Young to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc, as Mortgagee, as nominee for Security First Mortgage Funding, LLC, and now held by **Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for PRET 2025-RPL2 Trust**, said mortgage dated September 4, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54262, Page 185, as affected by a Loan Modification dated January 25, 2018 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60047, Page 289; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as nominee for Security First Mortgage Funding, LLC, its successors and assigns to Ditech Financial LLC by assignment dated May 30, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 58870, Page 270; said mortgage was assigned from Ditech Financial LLC to New Residential Mortgage LLC by assignment dated March 6, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62010, Page 134; said mortgage was assigned from New Residential Mortgage, LLC to NewRez LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing by assignment dated May 26, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62471, Page 220; said mortgage was assigned from NewRez LLC F/K/A New Penn Financial, LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment dated September 27, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68374, Page 282; said mortgage was assigned from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its Individual Capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust to Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for PRET 2025-RPL2 Trust by assignment dated February 17, 2026 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 73256, Page 210; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** August 27, 2026 at 03:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon situated on westerly side of Hammond Street, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, being Lot 35 on a plan of lots in Oxford, MA owned by the Rocky Hill Realty Company, dated May 26, 1958 drawn by Walter W. Brown and recorded in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 233, Plan 24, and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of said lot, said point of beginning being the northeasterly comer of Lot 34 on said plan and being 230.50 feet northerly, as measured along the extended westerly line of Hammond Street from the intersection of the extended westerly line of Hammond Street and the extended northerly line of Rocky Hill Road;

THENCE N. 7° 58' E. 91.62 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE by a curve to the left with a radius of 20 feet and a length of 30.37 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE N. 79° 02' W. 92.02 feet to an iron pipe;

The last three courses being by the westerly then southerly line of Hammond Street;

THENCE S. 11° 54' W. by Lot 41 on said plan 108.80 feet to an iron pipe;

THENCE S. 78° 12' E. by Lot 34 on said plan 118.65 feet to the point of beginning

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated August 14, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 54262, Page 183.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND ($5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Computershare Delaware Trust Company, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for PRET 2025-RPL2 Trust
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
July 24, 2026
July 31, 2026
August 7, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey Lucewich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for NewRez LLC, dated December 16, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64002, Page 140, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for NewRez LLC, its successors and assigns to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on December 14, 2021, in Book No. 66743, at Page 290

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 PM on August 31, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 64 Myrtle Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT:

The land in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

FIRST TRACT:

A certain tract or parcel of land situated in Webster, aforesaid, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a chestnut post at the northeast corner thereof on Myrtle Avenue;

THENCE West by land now or formerly of George Tracy one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a chestnut post;

THENCE Southerly by land of said Tracy sixty (60) feet to a chestnut post;

THENCE Easterly by said Tracy land, one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a drill hole in a stone on the westerly line of said Avenue;

THENCE Northerly by the line of said venue sixty (60) feet to the point of beginning.

SECOND TRAC?:

Situated on the westerly side of Myrtle Avenue, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the northeast corner thereof on the westerly line of said Myrtle Avenue;

THENCE Westerly by land formerly of George Tracy one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to a post;

THENCE Southerly sixty (60) feet to a post;

THENCE Easterly by land formerly of Lena R. Guenther, one hundred thirty-two (132) feet to post on said westerly side of said Myrtle Avenue;

THENCE Northerly by said Myrtle Avenue sixty (60) feet to the point of beginning.

Subject to restrictions, if any.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 64002, Page 136.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Ten Thousand ($10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
28844
July 31, 2026
August 7, 2026
August 14, 22026

Augustana College announces spring semester Dean's List

ROCK ISLAND, Ill. — Mekatilili Bantu, a Film and Business Administration-Marketing major of Webster, was named to Augustana College's Dean's List.

Augustana College announced more than 1,100 students were named to the Dean's List for the 2025-2026 spring semester. Students who have earned this academic honor have maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a four-point scale for courses taken during the term.

A private college of the liberal arts and sciences, Augustana enrolls 2,500 students on a 115-acre residential campus in the Quad Cities (pop. 470,000) along the Mississippi River. Augustana prioritizes engaged learning in 100 majors, minors and other academic programs, building each student's potential through customized success teams, hands-on learning,170 student organizations and 28 NCAA DIII athletic teams. The college also serves 40 graduate-level students in a fully accredited master of science in speech language pathology program. Augustana's location and community partnerships provide students access to internships, jobs, student teaching and research opportunities.

www.Stonebridge Press.com

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.

Explore "History and Legends through Song" at Gladys E. Kelly Library

WEBSTER — On Thursday, Aug. 6, the musical duo Sultana will bring "History and Legends through Song" to Gladys Kelly Public Library at 2 Lake St. in Webster, at 6:30 p.m.

The program consists of songs, history and slides about fascinating historical or legendary people and events. The show will include songs about New England History, Ancient Mesopotamia, a character from Arthurian legend, a renowned radio broadcast and more. "History and Legends through Song" is part of the series "Live Music Making History Live." The other shows in the series are "The Roots of American Popular Music," "The Railroad in Song," and "Popular Music and Veterans."

The duo Sultana is Jon and Li Waterman, both lifelong musicians and songwriters. Jon is also a licensed history teacher in Massachusetts. He created "Live Music Making History Live" in 2018 with the belief that history and entertainment go together - throughout the ages, songs, stories and theater have included history, and history is – or should be – entertaining.

The program is supported in part by a grant from the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Admission is free and the event is open to the public.

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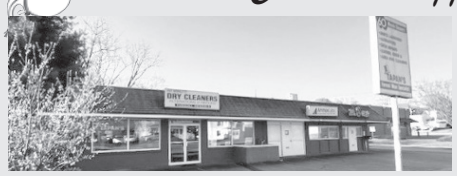

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Dudley - 3 Marshall Terrace

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Featured New Listing! Webster Lake Waterfront "Newly Constructed" - 26 Laurelwood Dr Up & Ready For Your Viewing!

Experience ultra-luxury lakefront living on prestigious Webster Lake. This masterfully designed, brand-new construction masterpiece spans 2,556 square feet of sophisticated, two-story living space optimized for panoramic Western water views and direct lake access. The upper level features a magnificent primary bedroom suite, anchoring an exquisite year-round sunroom that flows seamlessly onto an expansive open deck. Designed for seamless entertaining, the lower level serves as a private guest floor, complete with a full second kitchen, additional bedroom, and premium finishes throughout. From morning coffee to sunset gatherings, you'll enjoy every minute while overlooking the water from the lakeside deck, gorgeous covered patio, open 2nd story deck/sunroom. Every detail of this high-end estate redefines waterfront elegance.
MLS#73542689 **$1,550,000.**

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 fireplacesFHW BB heat. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom MLS # 73500183 **NEW PRICE $479,900**

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd New Construction- Craftsman Style home

Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lakeside beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 3 ½ baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tyle baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage
MLS # 73534271 **$679,900**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

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Master Masons gather for pig roast

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE LODGE

Southbridge

OXFORD — On Saturday, Aug. 1, the Oxford Masonic Lodge parking lot welcomed Master Masons, their families, and friends from the 24th Masonic District for a family-friendly pig roast.

Brother Fred Aubin, Jr. of Oxford Masonic Lodge and Brother Clay Tull of Major General Salem Towne Lodge in Southbridge hosted the event. With help from Brother Aubin's son and friends, Brother Aubin and Brother Tull began cooking the nearly 110-pound pig at 7 a.m. It took about eight hours to cook fully. The aroma filled the air as guests enjoyed pork butts, BBQ chicken, corn on the cob, pasta salad, potato salad, cornbread, coleslaw, baked beans, and more. Proceeds will support lodge needs and scholarship funds.

The day was filled with laughter, children playing, and the camaraderie and fellowship of Freemasonry, bringing together brethren from lodges across the 24th Masonic District with their families and friends. To learn more about Freemasonry, visit www.massfreemasonary.org to find a lodge near you.

Courtesy

From left, Brother Clay Tull, Brother Fred Aubin III with the apple in his mouth, Dave Mackenzie, and Brother Fred Aubin, Jr. kneeling are Jamiesin Miller and Jeff Trainor. The group smiles after successfully removing the pig from the grill and placing it on the table before carving and serving it to guests.

Calling all creative types to Webster's Bites, Books and Blooms

WEBSTER — It's not too late to exercise your creative muscles and join other floral artists, professional and amateur alike, in creating a display for Bites, Books and Blooms. This annual highlight of the Webster social calendar will take place at the Gladys Kelly Library on Sept. 23. In past years we have seen these representations through flowers of a favorite book or poem can range from literal to abstract and serious to silly. All have been intriguing and thought-provoking and demonstrate the talent for the visual arts that exists in our community.

For example, in 2024 Forget Me Nots Flowers & Gifts in Dudley chose to interpret Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone with a gorgeous burgundy sorting hat, a literal object from the book, alongside a pumpkin arrangement, a more abstract nod to the festive spirit of Hogwart's Great Hall at Halloween.

This year, Deb Horan, owner of Booklovers' Gourmet, has chosen a poem, The Red Wheelbarrow by William Carlos Williams. She says, "I was inspired by this simple, descriptive poem of everyday objects and setting that asks us to just stop and observe our surroundings." We can't wait to see how she will translate this into a visual form through flowers.

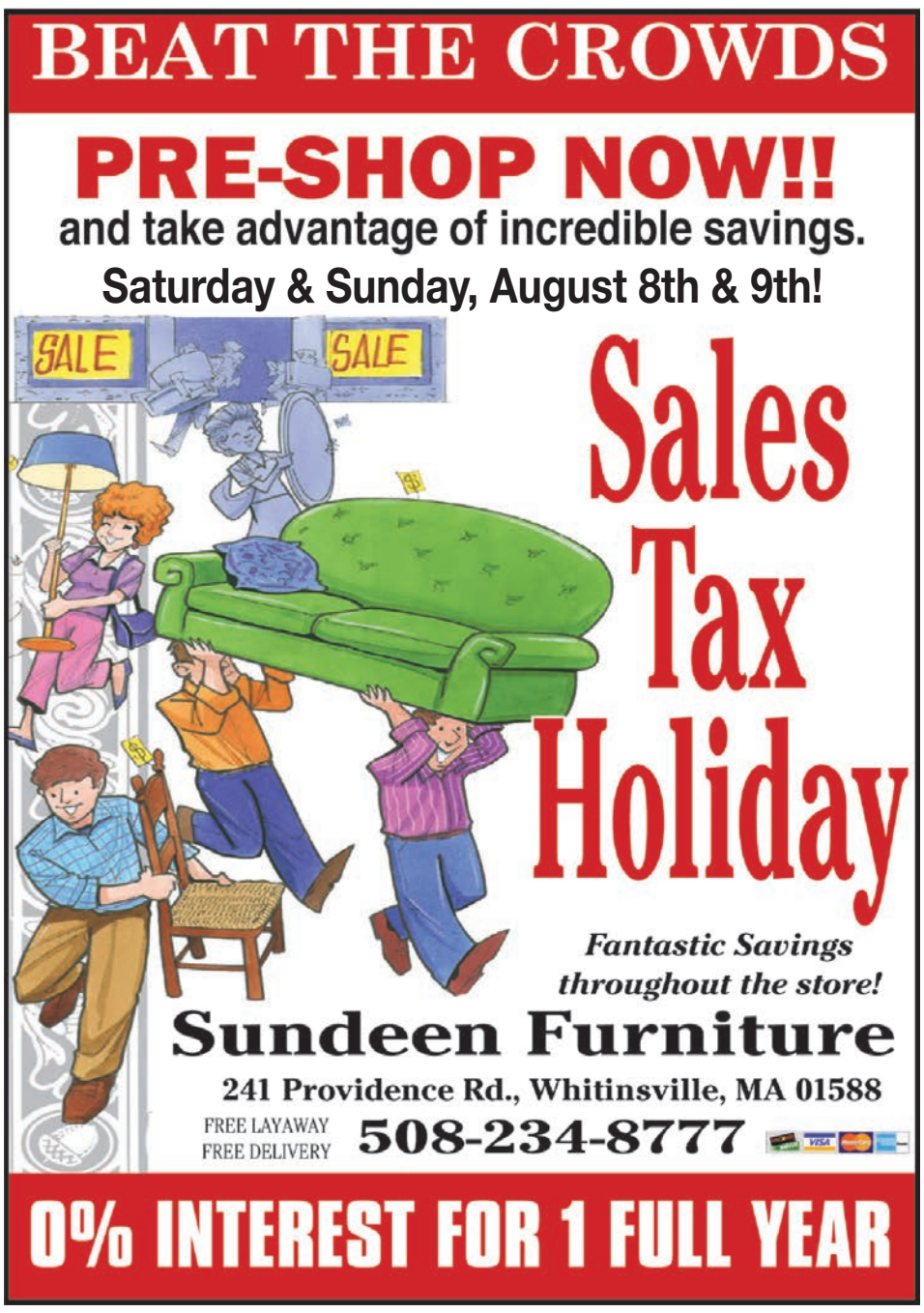
If you are inspired to submit your own Book in Bloom, please fill out the commitment form on the Friends of the Gladys Kelly Library website by August 3 or get a form at the library at 2 Lake Street in Webster.

Still unsure? Come to a Books in Bloom workshop on August 12, where Elaine Davies will lead a planning session, teaching you the mechanics of putting together a floral interpretation. Register for the workshop at the library or online under the library's events calendar: August 12, 6 pm "How to Create a Book in Bloom."

Whether you will be a featured artist or not, don't miss this evening of food, music and fun on Sept. 23, benefiting the library's free programming for all. Tickets will go on sale beginning Aug. 22.

Courtesy

"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," a Book in Bloom created in 2024 by Forget Me Nots in Dudley.



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