

Auburn News

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Looming budget cuts continue to cause concern in Dudley

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — It's becoming an all-too-familiar story for Dudley in 2023. Looming budget cuts are threatening to impact both public safety and services as town officials came back to the table for another meeting on June 26 geared towards exploring how and where to make these decreases in accordance with the voters' call for no new taxes. In six months time, talk of the budget, and the consequences of denying increases, has divided the town in more ways than one and as the realities of the severely limited spending plan become

clearer, the debate looks to be far from over.

Earlier this year, voters overwhelmingly turned down two attempted Proposition 2 ½ overrides in April and June, respectively, leaving the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen no choice but to work with a severely limited budget cutting services across the board. Initially the slimmed down budget was slated to cut 10 percent from every department in town, but the situation was made more complicated after the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee took a stand by making only minor cuts and sending a new assessment to Dudley that added more than \$867,000 to the town's projected deficit.

If Dudley fails to approve the new assessment, the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee may call a "super town meeting," bringing the citizens of Dudley and Charlton together to vote on the budget that, if approved at that point, Dudley will be required to accept regardless of the wishes of its own taxpayers.

None of this is news to those who have been following the budget process from day one. They are merely bullet points to an ongoing debate on how to move forward with a budget that avoids increases to taxes while maintaining the services that have become

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DCRSD extends electric contract with lower rate

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — After a difficult year for energy costs in 2022, the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District is looking to secure a significantly lower rate once its current contract expires.

Richard Mathieu, Director of Finance and Operations for the district, updated the school committee on the electrical contract during a meeting in June revealing that the district had a good opportunity to lower its rate, at least for one year.

"The quoted rate was 12.64 cents per kilowatt hour. That's lower than the 18 cents that we're currently paying. It does make sense to make this extension for one year. However, due to the volatility of the markets, before I used to be able to come and have a locked-in number. That is no longer the case," said Mathieu.

Even with the ever-fluctuating market, Mathieu saw the potential savings as a positive and asked the School Committee to authorize him to agree to the extension as long as the rate stayed below 13 cents per kilowatt hour.

The good news comes after a difficult year for electricity and natural gas in 2022 when the district was faced with a near 100 percent increase in the cost of electricity due in part to issues in Europe. The district worked with Competitive Energy Services to procure the best rate possible at the time. The extension would secure a lower cost for one fiscal year allowing the district time to assess the situation and how they want to proceed with their energy contracts.

Turn To **DCRSD** page **A17**



Courtesy

ZION AND RECONCILIATION SHARE CARE AND COMFORT

Zion Lutheran Church, Oxford, and the Church of the Reconciliation, Webster, work together on outreach projects to minister to people in our churches, communities, and the world. A recent endeavor was the completion of fifty personal care kits for our neighbors who may be under housed or in dire need. Each gender specific kit contains a small towel, soap, nail clippers, toothbrush and toothpaste, hair comb, deodorant, sanitary products, sunscreen, and a baseball cap packaged in a lightweight backpack. Both congregations were very generous in their donations of needed items. The kits will be distributed through local charitable agencies.



Courtesy

Worcester County Sheriff Law Evangelidis, Webster Regional Resource Center staff, Cannabis Control Commissioner Kimberly Roy, and members of the Webster Police Department Pose with HiSET Graduates after Wednesday's Ceremony.

Cyganiewicz elected new Select Board chair

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Selectmen chose to turn to familiar leadership in uncertain times for their new chair during their annual realignment on June 26. The board unanimously agreed to appoint newly re-elected Selectman Kerry Cyganiewicz to chair the board through the next year.

While the decision is in line with the unofficial tradition to elect the highest vote getter at the annual town election to lead the board, several selectmen made it clear that they were also choosing Cyganiewicz for his poise after he helped the board navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This reminds me a lot of the last time (Kerry) was chair. That was COVID. That was a storm and I want to nominate Kerry Cyganiewicz to lead us through the storm we have now," said Selectman John Marsi, referring to the ongoing budget issues that have created a sense of division and ongoing debate in the town.

Selectman Steve Sullivan also complimented Cyganiewicz as a capable leader in difficult times, stating "I had the mantal the first half of COVID. It's not easy. Kerry took over and it got a lot more difficult. Unfortunately, I think Kerry is not going to get a smooth sail again. Speaking for myself, and I'm sure the rest of the board, you've demonstrated ability and we'll move forward."

Cyganiewicz accepted the nomination but not without complimenting Selectman Jason Johnson who has now completed his first year as chair of the board.

"You're calm demeanor definitely was an asset this past year," Cyganiewicz told Johnson. "The way you tackle things even handed and (stoic), just the facts, that's what was needed this past year."

Marsi was elected to serve as vice chair, the same position he held the last time Cyganiewicz was in the chair seat. Selectman Mark Landry was voted as the board's clerk completing the new leadership lineup for the town's highest elected board.

Turn To **HiSET** page **A17**

Six Sheriff's Office Regional Resource Center clients receive HiSET diplomas

WEBSTER — On Wednesday, June 28, six individuals were recognized for successfully completing the HiSET, or high school equivalency, program offered at the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Webster Regional Resource Center.

Clients become involved with the Regional Resource Center by seeking services on their own or by a court order. Most of Wednesday's graduates were 'walk-in clients'

ranging in age from 20 to 47, all from southern Worcester County.

In addition to educational opportunities, the Sheriff's Office staff at the Webster Center assist individuals who have been or are currently

involved with the justice system with various services such as finding employment, housing, and health insurance. The center also offers programs, including addiction recovery and mental health assistance.

Harrington Hospital Auxiliary awards scholarships

SOUTHBRIDGE — In June 2023, the Harrington Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship Committee awarded \$5,000 in scholarships to area students planning to pursue a career in a health-care field. The first Harrington Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship was awarded in 1959. Since that time tuition costs and student needs have increased, thus motivating the Harrington Auxiliary to adopt more fundraising endeavors to support more scholarships. Today, the primary scholarship fundraising activities include the Auxiliary's Annual Lucky Duck and Family Fun Day and the Harrington Auxiliary Gift Shop.

Students residing in the communities served by the UMass Memorial Harrington Health Care System were invited to apply for one of the schol-



Courtesy
Mary Anne Hickey, Harrington Auxiliary scholarship committee member, awards a \$1,000 scholarship to Victoria Spitz.

arships. The committee received several applications, with at least one student representing the many communities in the Harrington Hospital service area.

The Harrington Auxiliary Scholarship Committee members presented \$1,000 scholarships to five recipients for a total of \$5,000.

Victoria Spitz is a graduate of Bartlett High School and is pursuing a career in nursing at Worcester State University.

Emily St. Martin graduated from Putnam High School and will be studying nursing at Endicott College.

Arminda Simoes is a graduate of Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School and plans a career in psychology at Wheaton College.

Lindsey Soter graduated

from David Prouty High School and will be attending Assumption University to pur-

sue a career in nursing.

Javier DeJesus is a graduate of Tourtellote

High School and is enrolled in the nursing program at UConn of Hartford.

Bike Rodeo sees biggest turnout to date

DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Health and Dudley Police Department's Third Annual Kids Bike Rodeo on June 22 saw the biggest turnout to date.

Forty-eight children and their families gathered that Thursday evening in the Dudley Town Hall upper parking lot to practice biking skills, including hand signals and reading street signs.

Bike inspections, helmet fittings and sizing were provided by Boston Children's Hospital.

The evening included practice bike courses, music and food. The rodeo was open to residents of Dudley and surrounding towns.

The Dudley Board of Health and Police Department thank the many volunteers who made the event possible and rodeo sponsors the Dudley Highway Department, Boston Children's Hospital, Airbrush Shack and Southbridge Bike.

Alyssa Sarkisian of Auburn graduates from Emerson College

BOSTON — Emerson College awarded approximately 1,058 undergraduate degrees during the 143rd Commencement at Agganis Arena in Boston on Sunday, May 14.

Alyssa Sarkisian of Auburn received a BA in Writing, Lit & Pub: Publishing.

During the ceremony, the College honored four award-winning executives, innovators, and Emersonians for their contributions and efforts to the arts, communication, and greater humanity. Warner Bros. Pictures Group Co-Chair and CEO Pamela Abdy '95; veteran Boston-based journalist Meghan Irons '90, Emerson Kasteel Well Executive Director Dulcia Meijers, and Emerson Trustee and former Chairman, and Vice President of Sunshine Wireless Company, Jeffrey Greenhawt '68 each received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Abdy '95 gave the commencement address.

"Members of the Class of 2023: I have long been inspired by your individual and collective focus and passion, and by your commitment and desire to make this world a better, kinder, more equitable place," said Interim President William Gilligan during the Presidential Address.

"Dreams are there to keep us striving, to keep pushing ourselves to our limits, but they don't have to stay trapped in amber. Dreams are dynamic - they can change. As long as you pursue them with intention, passion, and without fear, you will find your way," said Pamela Abdy, Warner Bros. Pictures Group Co-Chair and CEO.

About Emerson College
Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 4,161 undergraduates and 554 graduate students from across the United States and nearly 70 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, DC, London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. The College has an active network of more than 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

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Life Guard Decks

Massachusetts firefighters deployed to help quell Canadian wildfires

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — With wildfires continuing to rage across Canada, several firefighters from Massachusetts were recently deployed to Quebec to help battle the blazes.

Since the beginning of the year, more than 2,700 wildfires have burned across Canada, consuming millions of woodland acres. For residents of the midwestern and northeastern U.S., including central Massachusetts, smoke from the wildfires has veiled the sky and created poor air quality on multiple days this summer. Some of the nation's largest city skylines have been shrouded in ominous smoke, and the situation has even led to flight delays and event postponements.

Last month, Gov. Maura Healey sent 11 of the state's DCR firefighters to Quebec to assist struggling Canadian responders. Firefighters from several other states have also been dispatched to help our northern neighbors.

"Over the last several years, we have seen the impacts of the climate crisis here at home and around the world, in the forms of extreme weather and increasingly severe wildfires that continue to ravage our forests," said Healey. "We are proud of these 11 Massachusetts wildland firefighters who are heading up to assist our Canadian partners in battling these intense wildfires."

In recent years, New Englanders have seen multiple sunny days turned gray by smoke crossing the country from California wildfires. This year, the unprecedented Canadian wildfires are to blame, leading many residents and officials to call for more actions to be taken to address climate change.

"We feel the effects of the climate crisis every day, from the extreme heat to droughts to the smoke polluting our air," said Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll. "We appreciate the men and women from Massachusetts that will join the team fighting wildfires in Quebec and making our environment safer for all of us."

State officials thank the firefighters who traveled north to provide assistance. As wildfires have continued to set records across the continent over the past decade, team responses from multiple states and provinces are becoming increasingly common to combat the crises.

"Firefighters are on the frontlines of the climate crisis, risking their lives to save others," said Massachusetts Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "I was grateful for the opportunity to thank them directly, and we will keep them in our thoughts as we forge ahead to a clean energy future."

Added DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo, "DCR is committed to doing everything we can to protect our natural lands for generations to come, and the deployment of these 11 DCR firefighters to help our friends and partners in Quebec is part of that commitment."

The deployment of the firefighters was announced following a request

DCR received last month from the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Commission and the Northeastern Interagency Coordination Center based at the White Mountain National Forest in Campton, New Hampshire.

The deploying fire crew, which is also referred to as a "wildfire suppression module," will work the fire line for about two weeks. Tasks will include building fire breaks, securing fire perimeters, containing fires, and protecting structures.

All deploying firefighters are federally certified, having passed a 40-hour federal wildland firefighting class and a physical fitness test.

Bartlett High School

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

Grade 12

High Honor: Maxine Adu-Boahen Jones, Jacob Burnside, Shelly Condon, Nyia Gonzalez, Kylia Hernandez, Erikas Naujokes, Lianette Pantoja, Camryn Phillips, Lily Picchioni, Gabrielle Piehler, Yostina Rezk, Meghan Rice, Tiffany Salazar Vega, Victoria Spitz

Honor: Yunge Pharell Assizo, Wilenny Duran, Ariana Frink-McCluskey, Veronica Graves, Anousone Manilut, Dawanee Phanthavong, Daria Piwowarczyk, Jean Platel,

Alymarie Rodriguez, Angel Rodriguez-Monserrate, Megan Tucker, Federica Yanna

Grade 11

High Honor: Peter Brandao, Leidy Cruz Guzman, Urmiben Dabhi, Peter Lavache, Angel Marin-Caceres, Hung Tran, Dezmin Zona

Honor: Jaurel Cotto Rivera, Cash Frederick, Janessa Macario, Ryan MacCormack, Haideeliz Martinez, Madisynn Segarra

Grade 10

High Honor: Hope Cooper, Ess Keegan, Lexani Lewis, Evangeline Mayotte, Adam Phillips, Rafael Trivino,

Adam Urato, Odelis Valentin, Dakota Vaudreuil, Maya Wetherbee

Honor: Jibril Abshir, Savannah Bjork, Gracien Boucher, Wynter Cady, Lillyanna Cannon, Jayden Casey, Aiden Castillo, Ayden Do, Sydney Fuller, Joshua Furtado, Kallie Gagne, Taryn Gerber, Ayden Heenan, Justin Harraza, Janlucas Mercedes Morales, Ian Mulbah, Htwa Peh, Milton Skerrett, Gabriella Troy

Grade 9

High Honor: Tristan Booth, Niel Duszlak

Honor: Nigella Castro, Nathan Cole, Aiden Cruz, Georgia LaPierre, Travis Russell, Rogelio Torres

Western New England University announces President's List

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University recently named over 540 students to the Spring 2023 President's List.

Alyna Karam of Dudley is majoring in Construction Management.

Allie Provost of Dudley is majoring in Marketing.

Carter Coughlin of Auburn is majoring in Electrical Engineering.

Emily Wambach of Auburn is majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

Haley Burek of Auburn is majoring in Biology.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering,

and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.



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Raegan Peck named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Raegan Peck of Dudley has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester. To be named to the Dean's List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5

and 3.69 during the Spring 2023 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Peck is majoring in Allied Health Sciences at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University Established in

1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education

that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a spe-

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JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!
Want to receive updates about our upcoming events? Sign up for email alerts by visiting our website or contacting our Program Coordinator Randa Cox at rcox@cwmar.org.

Spice Club is back!!!
Each month will feature a new spice, recipes, and cookbooks. Stop by the lobby to grab a sample of that month's spice, then take it home and cook! July's spice is Sage.

Open Garden hours
Monday- Friday from 9:00 AM- 10:00 AM
Come and help water and weed our new teaching garden! Watch everything grow!

Adult Programming
YOGA WITH JULIE – Tuesday July 11th and the 25th at 6:00 PM

Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the "uniting of movement with breath". A typical class involves 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.

ADULT BOARDGAME NIGHT-- Monday July 10th and 24th —6:00 PM
Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn!

JOHNNY CASH – SONGS & STORIES WITH MATT YORK—Thursday July 18th at 6:00 PM

Longtime New England musician/author Matt York will perform the songs of Johnny Cash and tell stories about Cash's career spanning from the 1950's to his passing in 2003. He'll discuss Cash's emergence as a groundbreaking artist in the 1950's, his marriage to June Carter and many of his other career highlights. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Webster Local Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP—July 17 at 6:30 PM

This month's book discussion will be on Monday, March 20th at 6:30 PM in the Library's Community Room. The Group will be discussing *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Stop by the library, or reach out by

phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rcox@cwmar.org for inquiries.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
MAKER MONDAYS—Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM

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

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

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

ANIME AFTERNOON— July 11th and 25th 3:00 PM
Teen event. Anime. Popcorn. Fun.

BABY MASSAGE CLASSES— Thursday afternoons in June at 1:30 PM

Baby Massage can help with gas, constipation, bonding, soothing, and sleep. Sheryl will model the strokes on a doll as the parents practice the techniques on their babies.

SENSORY BIN EXPLORATION— Wednesday mornings in June at 10 AM

Children and their caretakers are welcome to come explore their sense of touch as they play in different sensory-stimulating materials like rice, orbes, Epsom salt, and more.

ED THE WIZARD—BALLOON TWISTING WORKSHOP— Monday July 10th at 10:00 AM

Ed the Wizard will teach children ages 7 and up to twist their own Dogs, Bunnies, and Cats! Limited to 30 participants. This program is funded by the Webster Cultural Council, a

local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

TEEN LASER TAG— July 11th at 6:00 PM

Up to 20 participants ages 12-18 may take part in an outdoor laser tag match. Sneakers and shoes are required. No flip flops. As a lot of running is required, participants with conditions such as asthma must have proper medication at all times. This program is funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

HANDS ON NATURE: WILDLIFE TRACKING— July 17th at 3:30 PM

Children of all ages will discover the tracks of local mammals and learn to identify which mammals leave which types of tracks. They will also discover other signs such as fur traces, scat and scratch marks. They can also make some track rubbings to take home! Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

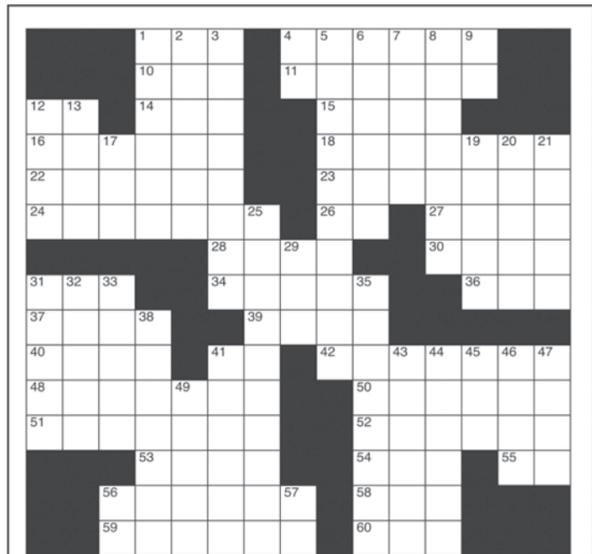
Dean College announces Spring 2023 Dean's List

FRANKLIN — Dean College is pleased to announce the students that have earned a place on the Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester. These students

have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

Hayden Dube of Oxford
Paige Evora of Webster

Hannah Nordstrom of Oxford
Amanda Shields of Oxford
Bella D'Auteuil of Auburn
Kyrie Sullivan of Auburn
Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston and Providence, R.I. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

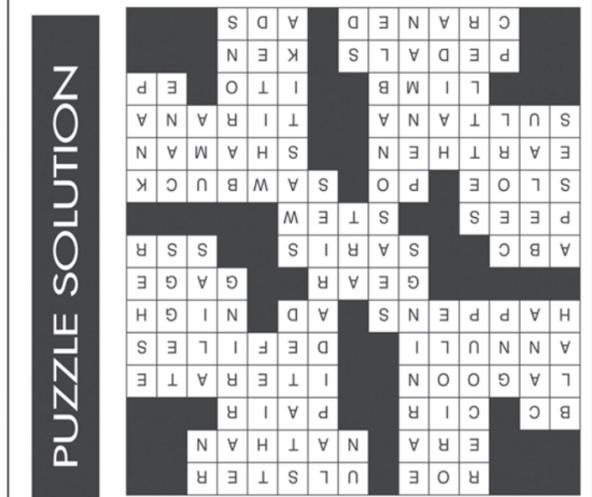


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Small Eurasian deer
- 4. Irish county
- 10. A major division of geological time
- 11. Broadway actor Lane
- 12. Canadian province
- 14. It causes fainting (abbr.)
- 15. Two
- 16. A notable one is blue
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. Rings
- 23. Sullies
- 24. Occurs
- 26. Publicity
- 27. Near
- 28. Tools of a trade
- 30. Offer in good faith
- 31. "American Idol" network
- 34. Garments
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Retired NFL DC Dean
- 39. Hot meal
- 40. A type of gin
- 41. Percussion instrument
- 42. A \$10 bill
- 48. About ground
- 50. Medicine man
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. National capital of Albania
- 53. Appendage
- 54. OJ trial judge
- 55. By the way
- 56. Bicycle parts
- 58. Barbie's friend
- 59. In a way, stretched
- 60. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Make up for
- 2. American songbird
- 3. Pay
- 4. International organization
- 5. Engravers
- 6. Declared as fact
- 7. Criminal
- 8. Jewelry
- 9. Hospital worker (abbr.)
- 12. Nonsense (slang)
- 13. Town in Galilee
- 17. Value
- 19. Another name
- 20. Sheep in second year before shearing
- 21. Town in Surrey, England
- 25. Appropriate during a time of year
- 29. Creative output
- 31. Recesses
- 32. District in N. Germany
- 33. Rider of Rohan
- 35. The official emblem of the German Third Reich
- 38. One who puts down roots
- 41. Scribe
- 43. Painted a bright color
- 44. Tycoons
- 45. Actress Thurman
- 46. Walking accessory
- 47. Crest of a hill
- 49. Member of a North American people
- 56. Type of computer
- 57. U.S. State (abbr.)



PAW of the WEEK



Emma
Meet Emma! 1 yr old, 50lb, female lab/cur mix. Emma is a super sweet girl who is looking for a loving family to spend her days with. She loves playing with other dogs and can't wait to meet you!

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Fridays..... 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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OXFORD SENIOR CENTER

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

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Email: seniorcenter@oxfordma.us
Website: www.oxfordma.us
Facebook: Oxford, MA Senior Center

Lunches are served on Tuesdays and Fridays, prepared by our own in house chef! Please call @ least 48 hours in advance to reserve a lunch. We offer DINE IN for \$4.00, and TAKEOUT for \$5.00.

Weekly Activities:
Mondays and Fridays @ 10:00 AM – Cribbage

Tuesdays @ 9:15 AM – Strength & Balance w/ Donna Freeland – Cost \$3.00 per class

Wednesdays @ 9:15 AM – Chair Yoga w/ Heidi Gambaccini – Cost \$3.00 per class

Tuesdays and Wednesdays @ 10:00 AM – Needleworkers (Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint). Bring your favorite project and come join the group for conversation and laughs.

Wednesdays @ 1:00 PM – Pitch

Wednesdays @ 1:00 PM – Chair Volleyball – Lots of laughs and only two rules (1) stay in your chair (2) have fun!

Thursdays @ 10:00 AM – Dominoes (Mexican Train)

Thursdays @ 12:30 PM – Quilting Class

Fridays @ 9:00 AM – Walking Club (Weather Permitting)

Monthly Activities:
Men's Coffee Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month @ 10:30AM – coffee and pastry are served

SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) – 3rd Wednesday of each month by appointment

Book Club – 1st Friday of each month @ 12:45 PM – reserve your book from the Oxford Public Library

Movie Matinee – 2nd Friday of each month @ 12:45 PM – popcorn and M&M's are served

BEANO – 4th Friday of each month @ 12:45PM – arrive by 12:30PM to purchase your BEANO sheets

Like to make puzzles but don't have the room – we always have a puzzle going on – come add a piece or two.

Need help completing any paperwork? Fuel Assistance, MassHealth applications or re-certifications, SNAP, etc., we can help. Call us @ 508-987-6000 to make an appointment.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

July 11th – Silver Moon Gypsies Belly Dancers @ 12:30PM

July 25th – MA & RI Poison Center Presentation @ 12:30PM

Please stop in and pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of upcoming events. You do not have to be an Oxford resident – ALL seniors are welcome!

5 Church St.
(508) 949-3845
Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events and our monthly lunch menu. 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 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tuesday 7/11 Potato Crunch Fish, herbed potatoes, peas & onions. Wednesday 7/12 Garlic Herbed Chicken, veggie rice pilaf, brussels sprouts. Thursday 7/13 Baked Ham, sour cream & chive mashed potatoes, glazed carrots. Friday 7/14 Chicken Pot Pie, garlic mashed potatoes, corn.

Join Laura Crosetti of Christopher Heights for a soup social at the Webster Senior Center on Monday, July 10th at 11:30 am. Sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Celebrate July birthdays with us on Wednesday, July 12th! Cake will be served at 12:00 pm. Please sign up at the front desk.

Join the Friends of the Webster Senior

Center for a Christmas in July party on Monday, July 17th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Live music, ice cream and raffle! Sign up at the Senior Center front desk by Friday, July 14th.

NEW WALK-IN HOURS! Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center will be open for walk in appointments on Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays by appointment only from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Call (508) 341-8724 to schedule an appointment.

A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center to assist you. Please call (508) 949-3845 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Senior Crafters Wanted! The Friends of the Webster Senior Center are holding a Craft Fair on Monday, October 16th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Table space is only \$10.00! Applications to be a vendor are available at the Webster Senior Center. No payment for table space will be accepted until your application is approved. Space is limited to 22 crafters. Tables limited to first 17 approved crafters.

REC Farmer's Market returns every Thursday starting Thursday, June 15th from 1:00 – 2:30 pm on the Town Hall front lawn.

DID YOU KNOW??? The Webster Senior Center has a table shuffleboard with pucks available to play. If you know how to play and how to score, come check it out!!!

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

Progressive Line Dancing with Forty Arroyo on Fridays, 1:00 – 2:30 pm. Cost: \$3.00 per class. (Please note: there will not be a line dance class on Friday, July 14th).

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

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Bingo sheets are not sold after 12:45 pm. Why not sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

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

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

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

Trip 1: The McCartney Years, Live in Concert at the Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers, MA on Thursday, Sept. 21st. Trip price of \$119.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, and show ticket. Trip 2: Splish Splash, the Music of Bobby Darin at Lake Pearl in Wrentham, MA on Wednesday, October 18th. Trip Price of \$109.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity, & show ticket. Our trips sell out quickly so don't wait to reserve your seat! Trip prices do not include bus driver gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

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

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

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

Country Bank recognizes President's Platinum recipient

REGION — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, announced the recipient of the 2023 President's Platinum Award. The Bank's recognition program, "Above and Beyond," encourages team members to look for coworkers who embody the Bank's corporate values of Integrity, Service, Teamwork, Excellence, and Prosperity (iSTEP). Within this program, members can receive different levels of recognition: Silver Spotlight, Gold Star, and the President's Platinum.

"Country Bank's team members contribute to the Bank's success in many ways throughout the year, and we are delighted to celebrate their contributions. The 2023 President's Platinum award was presented to Crystal Mansfield, Customer Experience and Sales Support Specialist. Crystal embodies the Bank's corporate values in every interaction she has. In addition, her nominator recognized her contributions to



the organization, customers, and coworkers. The Country Bank team is extremely dedicated, knowledgeable, and committed to delivering the best service to their external and internal customers,"

stated Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank.

"I am extremely honored to have been named a recipient of the Presidential Platinum Award! Thank you to my colleague for nominating me

and to Paul for selecting me to receive this year's award. My focus is always on a positive customer experience. Supporting, listening to, and finding customer solutions is simply the best part of my job. I could not do what I do without all the amazing team members at Country Bank. I am humbled to receive this award and appreciate that Country Bank has a culture that supports and recognizes the contributions of the team," said Crystal.

About Country Bank
Country Bank is one of the Commonwealth's most highly capitalized mutual savings banks, offering full-service consumer and commercial banking services. Country Bank serves Central and Western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield, and Worcester. Country Bank is an FDIC, DIF, and SUM network member. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

Nichols College names four new members to Board of Advisors

DUDLEY — Nichols College has named four new members to its Board of Advisors (BOA). The BOA is an engaged volunteer leadership body that lends its time, talent, and treasure to support the strategic initiatives of the college.

The new members are Benjamin Carbone, Katelynn Havener Mochun, Alexandra Vojtila, and Paul Washburn.

Benjamin Carbone, of Sterling, Conn.

Carbone is a licensed real estate agent in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, working with Brunet and Company to serve both commercial and residential clients. He graduated from Nichols College in 2020, earning a bachelor's in business administration (economics). He was a member of the Honors Program and won first place in the college's annual Elevator Speech competition in 2019.

Carbone is a native and lifelong resident of Eastern Connecticut where, at the age of 12, he began working in the family auction business. He has been active in the local community as a volunteer, an athlete and a professional.

Katelynn Havener Mochun, of Auburn, formerly

of Westborough

Havener Mochun has more than 10 years of experience supporting and driving customer relationships in the verticals of higher education and human resource technology. She is currently a member of the Customer Experience team as a customer success manager for WorkStep's Enterprise clients, a leading startup that is changing the way supply chain companies engage with and retain their frontline workforce.

Previously, Havener Mochun was director of admission at Nichols College, from which she earned a bachelor's degree in business administration (business communication) in 2012 and an MBA in 2017. She also serves as an adjunct instructor at Nichols.

Alexandra Vojtila, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., formerly of Southington, Conn.

Vojtila has been a financial advisor at Northwestern Mutual since 2019, serving both individuals and businesses. She graduated from Nichols College in 2017, earning a bachelor's in business administration (economics and business communication). In addition to her work at Northwestern Mutual, Vojtila is a professional drag racer for the NHRA D1 Division.

Paul Washburn, of Andover, former-

ly of Groton, Conn.

Washburn has worked in the investment industry in various roles from analyst to portfolio manager over the last 27 years. He is currently vice president, portfolio manager at FM Global. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration (finance) from Nichols College in 1992 and an MBA from Babson College in 2004.

About Nichols College

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

Local residents earn Dean's List honors from MassBay Community College

WELLESLEY HILLS — The following local students have been named to the MassBay Community College Dean's List. They achieved this outstanding academic honor for the spring 2023 semester.

* Alan Caceres of Webster, who studies General Business

* Nichole Rosa of Auburn, who studies Business Administration

* Courtney Schultz of North Oxford, who studies Radiologic Technology

To be eligible for the MassBay Dean's List, students must complete at least six credits of college-level courses, be in good standing with the College, and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

To learn more about MassBay, visit massbay.edu.

MassBay Community College is the most affordable higher education option in MetroWest Boston, offering a robust portfolio of courses and more

than 70 associate degree and certificate programs with flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in Ashland, Framingham, Wellesley Hills, and online. MassBay students receive an unmatched educational value by earning stackable credits that transfer to bachelor's degree programs, and workforce-ready skills necessary to advance careers in high-demand fields such as health and Life Sciences, automotive Technology, Engineering, business, cybersecurity, and the humanities. MassBay's Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) and Practical Nursing (LPN) programs were both ranked as the #1 Nursing Program in Massachusetts in 2020-2021 by national nursing advocacy organizations RegisteredNursing.org, and PracticalNursing.org. Since its founding in 1961, MassBay has been accredited by several governing bodies and remains firmly committed to its mission of meeting the needs of the diverse local communities it serves. We value the intrinsic worth of all individuals, collectively in pursuit of inclusiveness and prioritize our work towards achieving equity within our community and beyond.

OBITUARIES

Joshua M. Fasshauer, 40



O X F O R D — Joshua M. Fasshauer, 40, of Tower Hill Road, died peacefully in his sleep surrounded by his loving family on Monday, June 26, 2023, after a lengthy battle with kidney cancer. He is survived by his wife of 14 years, Ashley L. (Christenson) Fasshauer of Oxford; his daughter, Kamryn L. Fasshauer of Oxford; his parents, Michael W. and Michelle C. (Starosta) Fasshauer of Thompson, CT; his brother, Adam P. Fasshauer and his wife Teryn of Thompson, CT; his sister, Dr. Rebecca E. Stamatou and her husband Samuel of Old Saybrook, CT; his father- and mother-in-law, Robert and Shelly L. Chalue of Dudley; his sister-in-law, Kristi L. Jones and her husband Dr. Glenn Jones of Putnam, CT; his brother-in-law, Tyler R. Chalue of Woodstock, CT; many cousins, aunts, and uncles, including his uncle Dave whom he loved to play golf with; and very many friends and beloved family members. He was born in Worcester, was raised in Webster, and lived in Oxford since 2016. He graduated from Bartlett High School in Webster and received

his bachelor's degree in business management from Nichols College in Dudley.

Josh was the owner of the Webster branch of E.M.M. Financial for 5 years. He loved golf and was a member of Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton and Raceway Golf Club in Thompson, CT. He was an avid sports fan and played softball in the Sunday Softball League in Webster. Josh enjoyed traveling, loved cars, and enjoyed a good bourbon. He will be remembered as someone who loved to have fun, was the life of the party, and had a wonderful sense of humor. Ashley and Kamryn meant the world to Josh, and his favorite thing to say to them was "love you most." Josh, you will never be forgotten and we "love you most."

A funeral was held on Saturday, July 1, 2023, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Basilica, 53 Whitcomb St., Webster. Burial will follow at St. Joseph's Garden of Peace in Webster. Calling hours were Friday, June 30, 2023, from 5-8 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to J.D.R.F., P.O. Box 37920, Boone, IA 50037-0920, or to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/The Jimmy Fund, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284.

Seth Champoux of Dudley makes Dean's List at RIT

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Seth Champoux of Dudley was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester of the 2022-2023 academic year. Champoux is in the mechanical engineering program.

Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of

"Incomplete," "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 19,700 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is inter-

nationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

Jared Tetreau of Dudley graduates from Emerson College

BOSTON — Emerson College awarded approximately 1,058 undergraduate degrees during the 143rd Commencement at Agganis Arena in Boston on Sunday, May 14.

Jared Tetreau of Dudley received a BA in Media Arts Production.

During the ceremony, the College honored four award-winning executives, innovators, and Emersonians for their contributions and efforts to the arts, communication, and greater humanity. Warner Bros. Pictures Group Co-Chair and CEO Pamela Abdy '95; veteran Boston-based journalist Meghan Irons '90, Emerson Kasteel Well Executive Director Dulcia Meijers, and Emerson Trustee and former Chairman, and Vice President of Sunshine Wireless Company, Jeffrey Greenhawt '68 each received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Abdy '95 gave the commencement address.

"Members of the Class of 2023: I have long been inspired by your indi-

vidual and collective focus and passion, and by your commitment and desire to make this world a better, kinder, more equitable place," said Interim President William Gilligan during the Presidential Address.

"Dreams are there to keep us striving, to keep pushing ourselves to our limits, but they don't have to stay trapped in amber. Dreams are dynamic - they can change. As long as you pursue them with intention, passion, and without fear, you will find your way," said Pamela Abdy, Warner Bros. Pictures Group Co-Chair and CEO.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 4,161 undergrad-

uates and 554 graduate students from across the United States and nearly 70 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, D.C., London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. The College has an active network of more than 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

Isabella Sund of Auburn named to the University of Hartford President's Honors List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Isabella Sund of Auburn has been named to its President's Honors List for Spring 2023.

The President's Honors List is made up of an extremely select group of students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in the semester. This is the GPA that must be sustained over a full undergraduate career to qualify for a degree summa cum laude.

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 4,000 undergraduate and 1,800 graduate students from 48 states and 45

countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit www.hartford.edu for more information.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time for Dudley's leaders to get creative

To the Editor:

I voted "no" both times over the Dudley Proposition 2 1/2. I was angry and appalled at the 33 percent increase the selectmen and town administrator first put before the voters. My anger did not subside when very little attempt was made to change the percentage increase with the second vote. Times are tough and most of us are feeling the pinch.

I went to the June 26 selectmen's meeting to hear how the departments would adjust their budget because of the failed override. At the meeting, there was talk of another override vote and I thought I heard one of the selectmen say the budget request would be the same. Seriously? Have you not heard the Dudley voters in the past two overrides?

Then I listened as each department head explained how they would be impacted by the "no" vote. The administrator stated that there were no funds left for the library and it would have to close. What is the impact of this? One of the library board members stated that we would lose our hard-earned certification and go through a costly and lengthy challenge to recertify if ever it was to open again. We would permanently lose the already approved government grant that would help offset future expenses. On a personal level, it would mean that we may not be able to use local libraries, as they are under no obligation to serve us since we are not residents of their towns.

I knew that two full time firefighter positions would be eliminated with the "no" vote. I didn't think it would have much effect on our small town. Then the fire chief spoke. He stated that he would not risk the life of one of his firefighters by sending him into a burning house because there would be no backup for that firefighter if he got into trouble. He also stated that firemen are sent to their neighboring towns to help each other during an emergency. When the override did not pass, he had to remove from his budget the ability to send manpower to a neighboring town in crisis. What will happen when we need their help? These are not scare tactics. These are reality checks. These consequences affected everyone in the standing-room only meeting. We were quiet and solemn as each department head took his or her turn, explaining the debilitating impact the "no" vote had on their budgets.

I wish the town administrator and the selectmen had had the wisdom to communicate the actual impact our "no" vote meant. Just saying we would lose two firefighter and two police positions (not to mention the other department cuts) wasn't enough. I and others could rationalize the cuts as doable when, in actually, they could

be disastrous to our residents. I've shared the impacts discussed at the meeting with two of my friends, who were also unaware of the significance of them, and both have agreed to keep an open mind to a changed vote in a future override attempt.

However, the same concern remains with anyone I have spoken with: the 28-33 percent increase in property tax is too steep to ask us for in one year. I doubt you will obtain an override if that figure is not adjusted. Work with us! Calculate exactly the minimal amount each department needs to maintain the certificates/standards our town now has. What sacrifices can be made just for the next year? For example, it was mentioned that online certificate courses instead of in person training would save money. How about volunteers helping at the polls instead of paid workers? How about utilizing volunteers and unpaid student internships in the town hall, police department, library? One local town has a program where residents volunteer for the town and their accrued hours are applied to help lower their property taxes. Can we do the same, especially for the seniors and people struggling on a fixed income? Get creative. Every thousand dollars saved will help lower the percentage increase you are asking for. Then calculate the new percentage: will it be 20 percent? 22 percent? That is more reasonable than 33 percent. Remember that this budget is just for one year. Any lofty aspirations for the town can be considered in the following years if/when our finances/economy stabilizes.

Once you arrive at a new rate that is more tolerable, get the word out. Explain the impacts of the "no" vote as the department heads did at the meeting. Keep it simple for folks like me who don't know budget/financial terms. Post it online, print it in local publications. Make copies and have them available at local establishments. Have the firemen hand them out to Dudley residents as they wait at the red light by their fire station. Have copies available so residents can distribute them to local family, friends, and neighbors. I know paper and ink are expensive, but you must reach more voters (only 31 percent voted last time) if you have any hope of passing the override.

Times are tough. I am nickel and diming it most months. But reality is that no town can survive on only a 2.5 percent property tax increase, as debt exclusions only provide funds for a few needs. But it is also reality that a one year 33 percent hike is not likely to pass. If the town can get creative to lower that percentage, I will get creative to afford the extra \$50-\$60 a month my town needs from me.

Linda Pellerin
Dudley

Our school committee's privileged attitude has led to Dudley's budget woes

To the Editor:

So, Dudley needs to implement Draconian cuts in town services because voters rejected yet another Proposition 2 1/2 override to fund the bloated budget of the Dudley-Charlton School District. They are cutting police officers, firefighters, assistants and part-time staff in myriad offices, closing the Town Hall for even more days of the week and, ironically, shutting down the town library entirely, even as educators proclaim the value of libraries for students and adults alike.

The real villains in all of this, if there are any, are the regional school committee, which ardently rejects any significant cuts to its budget as well as the parents, who benefit from its generous programs.

At its June 14 meeting, two days after Dudley voters rejected its exorbitant budget fantasies, the regional school committee arbitrarily chose to cut its \$57 million budget demand — beg pardon, 'request' — by a paltry \$200,000, thinking Dudley voters might be fooled into believing that to be a legitimate compromise. While Dudley municipal departments are experiencing at least 10 percent cuts across the board, not to mention the library's 100 percent cut, the school district has offered a 0.35 percent cut in their budget. Yes, that's 35 one-hundredths of one percent. I understand that the school committee must advocate for the students. But it also has a responsibility to the community at large. Should it not have some concern for taxpayers, particularly the elderly and less affluent on fixed and limited incomes?

At that June 15 meeting, committee members went on and on about how disastrous was Dudley's override rejection, and how horribly school programs would be affected by anything other than an increase in their budget. Several parents noted how much their children had benefitted from school programs. One parent listed eight special programs her child participated in, acknowledging that they were expensive and time-consuming. Another lauded an after-school program that enabled students to make chocolate candy, which she said might encourage some of them to become chocolatiers. Yet another said she could afford to pay out of pocket if necessary for the therapeutic programs her child received free of charge from the school system, but wondered if less affluent parents could. One former student said she was only 18 and didn't pay taxes, but still could not understand how anyone could vote against fully funding the budget.

These are just the sort of tone-deaf arguments that financially-strapped taxpayers find so frustrating. Except for an occasional acknowledgement of Dudley's extraordinarily difficult situation, not one person expressed sympathy for the elderly or less affluent taxpayer in

Dudley who might be forced out of their home so that students could make chocolates.

Dudley town officials seem powerless to mitigate the expected budget deficit. They might consider recruiting students from local colleges and vocational schools to volunteer as unpaid interns in town offices, rather than hiring part-time employees, or collecting nominal fees from parents for sports programs and other special programs not mandated by state law. More substantial relief could come through payments in lieu of taxes from prosperous, tax-exempt institutions like Nichols College. Many communities negotiate voluntary payments from colleges like Nichols, which benefit from public services, but are exempt from paying taxes.

Besides enjoying the benefits of police, fire and public works services, Nichols has reaped generous state and federal grants and loans for its capital projects. But the Dudley selectmen's office says that Nichols refuses even to discuss the matter. The golf course, also owned by Nichols, is classified under Chapter 61B, which allows the town to assess recreational land at a fraction of its true value so long as it is open to the public. But suppose we don't play golf. As taxpayers, must we still subsidize Nichols and their patrons that do?

All of this comes down to what we can afford as a responsible semi-rural community, with limited means but with powerful institutions that seem to demand more services but offer no cooperation or support. We all favor quality education. But not all of us can afford the bells and whistles that go beyond that.

Some Charlton residents have asserted on social media that they would simply overwhelm recalcitrant voters in a joint town election required by state law if Dudley does not accept the school committee's budget request and "just come and take" the town's money to fully-fund the schools and let its other services be damned. One Charlton selectman has noted that his town has no problem with the school, budget since, apparently, it is flush with cash due to the new Amazon warehouse, the Tree House Brewery and other vibrant businesses along Routes 20, 169 and 31. Dudley has none of that. It's like New York City expecting Poughkeepsie to share its burdens.

I just happen to be a taxpayer in both Charlton and Dudley, and I can probably afford the tax increase that accepting these demands would entail. But knowing the extreme cuts that would be required in Dudley's basic services, I don't understand how people who insist on pursuing the privileged interests of the school committee at the expense of the desperate needs of a less affluent community like Dudley can sleep at night.

Frank Magiera
Dudley

EDITORIAL

If walls could talk

With Independence Day having just passed us by, we always like to give a shout out to our forefathers, especially those from Boston. Throughout the tales of the Revolution we are always given images of Paul Revere, John Adams and Sam Adams sitting in a dimly lit tavern in Boston, speaking quietly in an attempt to devise a plan to thwart the redcoats.

With that said, we thought it would make sense to highlight the three oldest pubs in Boston. The first is the famous Green Dragon Tavern, which opened its doors in 1654, making it the oldest bar in the city. The exact location has moved a few times over the years but is always in the same vicinity. Paul Revere wrote about his secret meetings with Dr. Joseph Warren and the others at the old Tavern. Often times the Sons of Liberty would sit and simply eavesdrop on the British troops to gather information. It is said that in 1788 the Sons of Liberty wrote a resolution to support the Federal Constitution at the Green Dragon.

The next stop Revere and friends would visit often is the Warren Tavern, located in Charlestown. This tavern is the oldest continually operating pub in the city that has remained in its original location. The tavern was constructed in 1780 by Captain Eliphalet Newell who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The pub was named after Dr. Joseph Warren who was a close friend to Newell. Warren lost his life at Bunker Hill. George Washington was known to stop by while in town visiting friends. Interesting to note is that the beams holding up the tavern are older than the tavern itself. They came from old boats that were no longer in use from an old shipyard. Those who visit the Warren Tavern say the inside is like traveling through a time machine as they have maintained as much as the original feel as possible.

In 1779, The Bell in Hand was built and is located in the center of historic down town. Bell in Hand is a reference to Town Crier Jimmy Wilson who built the tavern. While shouting out the news in town, he would excitedly ring a bell to get the attention of the townspeople. One of the original signs to the tavern can be seen along the Freedom Trail. Wilson was against serving hard alcohol, because he thought it led to more brawls than necessary. Because of that, the tavern only served Smith's Philadelphia Cream Ale. They kept that tradition up until 1919.

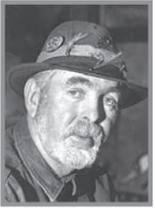
So while many historians revel at such places as the Old North Church, The Granary Burial Ground or the Paul Revere House, we think the walls would talk best at the old Taverns.

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.

Fishing for hornpout



THE GREAT
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The Fourth of July weekend is over! Hope everyone had a great time doing what they love best. I am sure many people got a lot of fishing done with family and friends. Send along some photos of the big ones.

One topic you do not hear about too often is anglers going fishing for hornpout (a member of the catfish family). During my early years of fishing, I often fished the Meadow Pond and Arcade pond in Whitinsville for these tasty eating fish; however, listening to the dangers of eating fish from local fresh water ponds could be hazardous to your health! I often took some of my catch to the Whitinsville Fish & Game Club, and cooked them for those in attendance! A large platter of hornpout was consumed in minutes. There was a special knack in cleaning these fish, but once you had cleaned a few, it went quite fast.

The best time to fish for hornpout was at nighttime, or a cloudy day. A couple of rods and a few worms and a lantern were all that was needed. Sitting on the shore of a pond, it was not long before a bite was encountered, and a hornpout reeled in. The average fish was eight to 10 inches, and provided excellent



This week's picture shows Jerry Gareri with a huge brown trout he caught recently at his camp in Maine.

eating. Back in the day, I often spotted a lone night angler fishing on the bank of local ponds, with the lantern glowing. It was a quiet way to spend the evening, away from the chaotic day, working at local factories.

This is a great time of year to do some fishing on the Quabbin Reservoir! You can rent a boat for \$25, and it includes free entry and parking. The boats are equipped with 10 hp motors and a tank of gas, that will keep you fishing all day. Because of the crazy restric-

tions of washing your own boat before launching your boat, it becomes costly. My brother Ken & his wife Deb often go fishing at the Quabbin, fishing out of Gate 8 or Gate 43. A few weeks ago, Ken's wife caught all of the fish. The peace and tranquility of fishing on the Quabbin is extremely relaxing. Give it a try. Note: The boats are rented on a first come first serve basis. Go early morning!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Courtesy

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Summer's Bounty: The Pleasures of Garden Fresh Foods

The pleasures of a New England garden are the rewards of enduring the long, hard winter. Red, ripe tomatoes heavy on the vine; green bean tendrils spiraling skyward, and corn stalks waving in the wind, hold the promise of a healthy summer harvest.

But it's not necessary to grow your own fruits or vegetables to reap the many benefits of home grown goodness. Freshly picked produce is as close as area farm stands and farmer's markets. Thankfully, our region hosts several open air markets that boast a variety of healthy and affordable garden offerings.

Area farmers market events are favored destination for weekend shoppers, and many families make the trip to the open air markets a seasonal ritual. With fresh food, friendly chat, the piece of mind of buying locally sourced food and the satisfaction of knowing your purchase is supporting small farms, it's a win-win situation for both buyers and growers.

**

Benefits of Buying Local: While enjoying fresh fruit and produce may be what draws people to a farmers market, the benefits of buying directly from local growers go far beyond taste. From reducing food contamination risks and environmental waste to boosting the local economy and social interaction, neighborhood food markets play an important role in community health, wealth and happiness.

**

Peak of Nutrition: Growers typically sell their produce within a day of harvesting, with many offerings picked the morning of the market. Not only does the food taste better when it's fresh, its nutrients are at peak levels. Fruits and vegetables purchased at grocery stores may have been shipped from distant states and other countries. Studies show such produce travel an average of 1,300 miles, delaying their arrival at the store for up to two weeks.

**

Save Money: Fruits and vegetables purchased as they're picked is a pleasure that typically saves the consumer money. Because the grower is selling directly to the consumer, there are no middleman costs, and this savings can be passed on to the shopper. In addition, farmers market host sites usually charge just a nominal fee for the farmer to set up, resulting in lower purchase prices.

**

Earth Friendly: Shopping for locally grown foods is an earth friendly choice that doesn't sacrifice quality. Industrial farming is a major source of water pollution due to contamination from chemical fertilizers, pesticides and animal waste. In addition, goods sold in the same community as they are grown drastically reduces fuel transportation energy and costs. Buying locally from growers who use sustainable practices is a responsible choice you can feel good about.

More Variety: Offerings from local farmers not only afford the consumer a wide variety of produce, but it also allows for the purchase of lesser known, tastier varieties that might not meet commercial requirements. Since grocery stores typically sell produce grown to endure long transport trips and maintain expanded shelf life, the old fashioned strains and heirloom varieties of fruits and vegetable are often absent from the supermarket shelves. Plus, buying locally offers piece of mind if shoppers are concerned about genetically modified foods.

**

Less Waste: Buying at a farmers market or farm stand can radically reduce waste in more ways than one. Purchasing freshly picked produce from the grower eliminates the need for protective waxes, identifying labels, or fancy packaging. Bringing a sturdy cloth bag to tote produce and recycled cardboard cartons for eggs further reduces waste.

Food waste is also lessened because freshly harvested goods arrive at the table with a longer window of freshness.

**

Boost Local Economy: The dollars you spend at a local farmers market are more apt to remain in the area, giving a boost to the local economy. In addition, studies show visitors to farmers market sites typically patronize other businesses in the area. In fact, one study estimates every dollar spent on local foods results in up to one dollar more in local economic activity.

**

Zucchini Dip

Zucchini and chives are two plentiful offerings at farmers markets. The inexpensive ingredients mixed with cream cheese, make an impressive dip. To increase the fancy factor, serve in a crusty boule bowl.

Ingredients: 1 (8 ounce) brick of cream cheese, softened; three tablespoons milk; one cup shredded zucchini; 1/4 cup fresh chives, chopped; salt to taste.

Directions: Blend cream cheese and milk together in a bowl. Mix in the zucchini, chives and salt to taste. Chill before serving.

Garden Salsa

Freshly picked corn, tomatoes, peppers and onions form the basis of this sensational salsa!

Ingredients: 4 medium ears of fresh corn, husked; 2 cups grape or cherry tomatoes, quartered, 3 medium tomatoes, peeled and coarsely chopped; 1/2 cup chopped green red sweet pepper; 1/2 cup finely chopped celery; 1/4 cup snipped fresh cilantro; 1 to 2 tsp. chopped canned chipotle chile peppers in adobo sauce; 2 cloves garlic, minced; 2 tsp. olive oil; 1/4 cup lime juice; one tsp. salt

Directions: Cut kernels off corn cob to make two cups (include juices); Saute corn and garlic in olive oil until lightly browned. Allow to slightly cool, then stir in tomatoes, sweet pepper, celery, cilantro, lime juice, chipotle chile peppers and salt. Cover and refrigerate at least two hours.

Note: Use kitchen gloves when chopping chile peppers.

Potato, Pepper, and Onion Casserole

Here's a budget friendly side dish that spotlights garden peppers. Use a combo of red and green peppers for additional eye appeal.

Ingredients: four medium potatoes; four medium peppers; one large sweet onion, two tablespoons olive oil; salt and pepper to taste.

Directions: Peel and cut potatoes into one inch cubes. Cut peppers into two inch chunks. Peel onion and cut coarsely. Place potatoes, peppers, and onions into a casserole dish. Pour olive oil over vegetables and mix slightly. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Top with grated cheese if desired. Bake for at 425 for a half hour or until vegetables are tender.

Turn To HINT page A17



A hummingbird dining on the nectar of phlox.

Melinda Myers

Plan and plant a hummingbird garden



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Whether you are making some late additions to your gardens or planning for the future include some hummingbird-favorite plants. Select plants and create combinations to attract and support them with a season-long supply of nectar.

Hummingbirds consume an average of two to three times their weight in nectar each day. Providing feeders and an abundance of flowers throughout the season will support the hummingbirds and help attract them to your gardens. Keep this in mind as you add plants to your landscape.

Shrubs like azalea, lilac, weigela, buttonbush, and Rose-of-Sharon provide shelter for birds and nectar-filled flowers for hummingbirds and other pollinators to enjoy. The North American native honeysuckle vine adds vertical interest and hummingbird appeal even in small spaces. Major Wheeler is a cultivar of the native honeysuckle vine that blooms all summer and is more resistant to powdery mildew. Watch as the hummingbirds munch on any aphids that attack this plant. They are great pest managers to have in the garden.

Another native vine, the trumpet vine, is a vigorous

grower that can be trained into a small tree or onto a trellis. This plant will send out suckers requiring some regular maintenance. Be patient as it can take several years for this vine to begin flowering. Avoid overfertilization which results in an even bigger plant and no flowers.

Shorter vines, like the hummingbird's favorite cardinal vine, make excellent thrillers in containers. Train them onto a decorative support and grow them in their own pot or combine them with other annuals.

Include perennials for added seasonal beauty and nectar. Early blooming lungwort is shade tolerant and provides some of the earliest nectar for these winged beauties. Leave the white or lavender flowers on your hostas for the hummingbirds. This popular shade-tolerant plant is often overlooked for its hummingbird appeal.

Garden phlox and bee balm are both hummingbird favorites that add color and nectar to the summer garden. Look for powdery mildew-resistant varieties or plant them among other tall plants to hide any discolored foliage that may occur. North American native anise hyssop and liatris are two more favorites you may want to include.

Fill vacant spots in the garden, containers, or hanging baskets with annuals known to attract hummingbirds. Fuchsias, begonias, and impatiens are perfect for shady locations. Cupheas are often sold under the common names,

tiny mice and cigar plant, and prefer a sunnier location. The taller blue horizon ageratum, geranium, bidens, tall verbenas, and petunias grow well in gardens and containers.

Both perennial and annual salvias attract hummingbirds. Place a pot or two of Black and Blue, Black and Bloom, and Wendy's Wish near your windows, so you can enjoy the frequent visits of your resident hummingbirds.

Add one or more feeders to your landscape. Provide space between the feeders as hummingbirds are territorial. Make sure there is cover within 10 to 15 feet. Fill the container with a 1-part sugar to 4-part water solution. Replace the mixture and clean the feeders every few days. This provides additional food for the hummingbirds and viewing opportunities for you.

It may take a couple of years for the hummingbirds to find your nectar-filled garden. In the meantime, you will enjoy the flowers and other pollinators that stop by to dine.

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



Grill safely this summer

Plenty of people can be found working their grilling magic year-round. But the vast majority of people do the bulk of their grilling over the summer, when warm temperatures contribute to a relaxed atmosphere that makes outdoor cooking and dining that much more appealing.

The relaxing nature of summer can make it easy to overlook safety, particularly when grilling. However, the right safety measures when cooking over an open flame can prevent home fires and other accidents that can cause injury and even death. In recognition of the many things that can go wrong when grilling, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Fire Administration offer these simple fire safety tips that every grillmaster can keep in mind as summer grilling season hits full swing.

- Only use a grill outside. Grills should never be used indoors, and that includes in garages with the doors open. Before lighting a flame, make sure the grill is at least three feet from siding, deck rails and eaves.

- Establish a safe zone around the grill. A three-foot safe zone around the grill can decrease the likelihood that pets will run into and potentially tip over the grill. Kids can be taught to respect this zone as well so they avoid being burned.

- Open a gas grill before lighting it. Charcoal grills, hybrid grills and smokers cannot be lit unless the lid is lifted. That isn't the case with gas grills, but gas grills should never be lit with the lid closed. If a gas grill is lit with its lid closed, gas can build up inside and that could cause an explosion. Even if there's some summer rain falling, open the lid on a gas grill before turning the ignition switch.

- Keep an eye on the grill at all times. It's tempting to walk away from a grill while food is cooking, but someone should always be tasked with staying close to the grill. If cooks must walk away, ask another adult to stay close to the grill until you return. All it takes is a few seconds for a fire to start.

- Clean the grill regularly. Regular cleaning of the grill is both healthy and safe. Cleaning helps to ensure the cooking surface is clean and unlikely to cause food poisoning. But a grease-free grill also poses less of a fire hazard than one that hasn't been cleaned.

- Let coals cool before discarding them. Coals from the grill should be given ample time to cool before they're removed from the grill and discarded.

- Remember to turn the gas valve to the off position after cooking. When cooking with gas grills, cooks must remember to turn the valve to the off position once all the food has been cooked.

Simple safety measures can ensure summer grilling season goes off without a hitch.

How to avoid food poisoning when grilling this summer

Cooking over an open flame produces a unique flavor that's difficult to match. The smoky flavor of grilled foods is hard to resist, especially on summer nights that seem tailor-made for cooking and dining outside.

Cooking over a flame comes with certain safety risks, and those risks are easily mitigated with some simple strategies. It's equally important that grilling enthusiasts make an effort to reduce the risk of food poisoning when grilling. Dishes used to cook indoors are routinely scrubbed clean after a good meal, but grills rarely garner the same level of post-meal attention, which can increase the risk for food poisoning. And a less-than-spotless grill grate isn't the only food poisoning risk linked with grilling. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer these tips to avoid food poisoning when grilling in the months ahead.

- Separate raw foods before grilling. Cross-contamination can contribute to food poisoning. The CDC suggests efforts to prevent cross-contamination should begin at the grocery store. Foods should be kept separate in grocery carts and bags, and packages of raw meat and poultry should be kept in their own individual bags.

- Keep foods cool at all times. The CDC recommends picking up meat, poultry and seafood right before checking out so the food remains as cool as possible at all times. If it's a long drive from the store to home, which can be the case when grilling foods that must be purchased at specialty stores or fisheries instead of traditional neighborhood grocery stores, shoppers



can place items in insulated coolers and keep them at 40 F or below. All raw meat, poultry or seafood should be refrigerated until cooks are ready to place it on a grill.

- Thaw foods safely. The CDC notes that foods should never be thawed on a counter, even if they're in a pot or bowl of lukewarm water. Foods should be thawed in a refrigerator or by utilizing the defrost function on a microwave.

- Marinate safely. Like thawing, marinating should always be done in a refrigerator, regardless of which type of marinade is being used. When marinating foods are ready for cooking, discard the marinade and clean the dish immediately to avoid contamination.

- Routinely clean hands when handling raw meat, poultry and seafood. Cooks should wash their hands thoroughly after handling raw meat, poultry or seafood. Wet hands, lather them with soap and then scrub for at least 20 seconds. Make sure hands are dried on a clean towel, and repeat this process any time

raw meat is touched.

- Clean the grill thoroughly. A grill should be given a thorough cleaning before each use. The CDC urges individuals using a wire bristle brush to thoroughly inspect the grilling surface before lighting a flame and cooking. Wire bristles can be dislodged during cleaning, and then end up on food, where they can pose a significant health hazard once foods are eaten.

- Always place cooked foods on clean dishes. Cooked foods should never be placed back on the dishes or in the containers where they were stored prior to being cooked. Doing so can lead to food poisoning and illness.

- Cook foods to the appropriate temperature. Foods require different cooking temperatures, and cooks are encouraged to determine those temperatures for each food they grill. Utilize a meat thermometer to ensure foods are cooked hot enough to kill germs.

Safe grilling includes doing everything possible to prevent food poisoning.

Interesting facts about ice cream

Perhaps no food is as universally beloved as ice cream. Though people may dispute which ethnic cuisine reigns supreme or which region produces the most delicious barbecue or which city makes the best pizza, ice cream inspires no such debate. It's simply loved by people of all ages and from all walks of life.

Ice cream is a go-to dessert for people across the globe, and those individuals may be interested in learning more about this beloved confection.

- The International Dairy Foods Association notes that the origins of ice cream can be traced at least as far back as the second century BC. Though the precise origins of ice cream are not known, the first ice cream parlor in the United States opened in 1790. PBS notes that President George Washington was especially fond of the frozen treat.

- Many people prefer their ice cream served in cones, and they can thank any one of a number of individuals who may be responsible for the invention of the ice cream cone. According to the Library of Congress, various accounts suggest Charles E. Menches is the inventor of the ice cream cone, which he first offered for sale at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904. Ernest Hamwi, Abe Doumar, Albert and Nick Kabbaz, Arnold Fornachou, and David Avayou are some others who have been credited with inventing the ice cream cone.

- The Dairy Alliance reports that three gallons of milk are required to produce a single gallon of ice cream. That means one cow can produce between two and three gallons of ice cream per day.

- Ice cream aficionados span the globe, but the



World Atlas reports that no country consumes more ice cream per capita than New Zealand. New Zealand is reportedly renowned for producing high-quality dairy products, which might be one reason why the average New Zealander consumes 28.4 liters of ice cream per year. The United States (20.8 liters per year per person) and Australia (18 liters) are next in line behind New Zealand.

- Chocolate reigns supreme as the most popular ice cream flavor in the world. So says an analysis of data from Lexham Insurance conducted by The Food Channel®. That data represents figures from 121 countries and found that vanilla, mint chocolate chip, cookie dough, and buttered pecan round out the top five ice cream flavors across the globe.

- According to Ben & Jerry's, the new ice cream texture that develops after a pint melts and then re-freezes is the result of microscopic air bubbles that keep ice cream soft and fluffy. That air escapes when ice cream melts, and since it's gone when the ice cream refreezes, the result is a product that's no longer as soft as it was intended to be.

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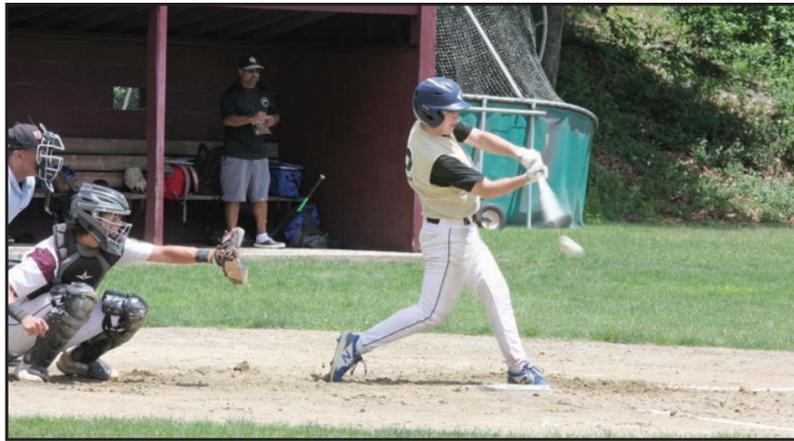


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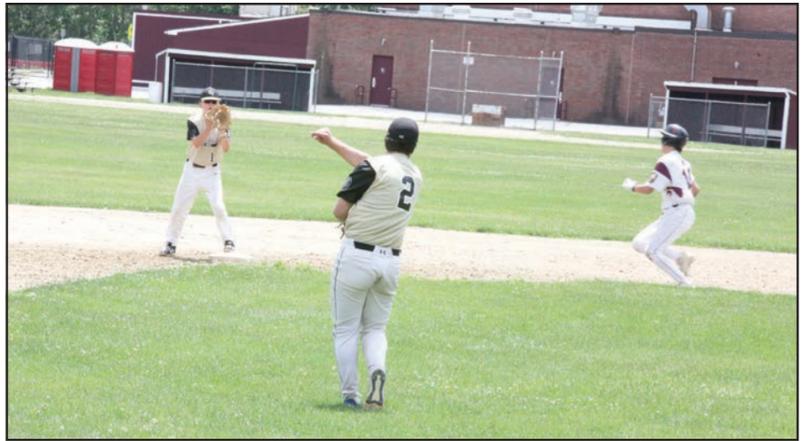
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SPORTS



Nick Ethier

Cherry Valley third baseman Andrew Cloutier fires the ball over to second baseman Joe Kustigian.



Nick Ethier

Cherry Valley third baseman Andrew Cloutier fires the ball over to second baseman Joe Kustigian.

Unsung heroes, plus overpowering pitching, help Cherry Valley get past Northbridge

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

NORTHBRIDGE — When the Cherry Valley Post 443 American Legion baseball team headed to Lasell Field to take on Northbridge Post 343 on Sunday, June 25, the Leicester-based squad brought just nine players with them. Four of the nine, batting in the 6-9 spots, aren't regular starters. But that didn't phase Andrew Cloutier (who played third base), Owen Reece (right field), Gavin Parker (left field) or Joe Kustigian (second base), as the four combined to reach base seven times in their 16 plate appearances. Reece was 2-for-4 with a pair of runs scored, and Parker and Kustigian both had RBI hits as Post 443 emerged victorious, 4-0. "They did win the game, really. The bottom of the order was the top," said Cherry Valley head coach Jim Stephens. "I feel great about it. The kids

deserve their time. Sometimes I don't give them the time. It's hard to try to win ball games and give everybody a shot." Post 443 scored one run in the top of the first inning (Matt Kustigian RBI single), another one in the second (Jake Delvalle RBI single) and two more in the third (the RBI hits by Parker and Joe Kustigian), which proved to be more than enough for pitcher Evan Remington. A hard-throwing righty, Remington threw a complete game two-hitter with 10 strikeouts, two walks and one hit batter. "I think he's the best pitcher in the Zone," Stephens said of Remington. "I haven't seen anybody better. He struggled the first two innings and that's what great pitchers do, they fix themselves. Then, in the third inning, he had a seven- or nine-pitch inning and then after that it was lights out."

Remington allowed a leadoff walk to Chase Falcon in the bottom of the first inning and left two runners stranded in the second. Then, in the third, he struck out the side. Remington needed just 18 batters to record the game's final 15 outs. "He's good, no doubt, but you can't hit the ball if you don't swing," Northbridge head coach John Demagian said of his frustration of his players looking at strikes. "It's our inability to hit the baseball. We faced a good pitcher today, but too many called thirds and too many strikeouts. Too many." Of Post 343's 10 strikeouts, four were of the looking variety. Jack Nummela and Falcon had Northbridge's only base hits, singles in the fourth and fifth innings, respectively. What also helped Remington was the defense behind him. Cherry Valley played error-free ball for the first time this season,



Nick Ethier

First baseman Nolan Remington of Cherry Valley applies the tag on a Northbridge base runner.

according to Stephens. "The kids were making plays," the coach added. Post 443 improved to 3-4 with the win and evened their record to 4-4 when they defeated East Side Post 201 on Tuesday, June 27, 11-10. That was their final game before press time due to the holiday deadline. Taking the loss for Northbridge was Zach Feeny, who hung in there after allowing the four runs — three earned — in the first three innings. Feeny finished with six innings pitched and gave up 10 hits while striking out three and walking two.



Nick Ethier

Base runner Owen Reece of Cherry Valley manages his way around Northbridge third baseman Nick Artura.

"Our guy did a decent job. He was a good pitcher for us last year," Demagian said of Feeny, who had his second start after not pitching since last July. "It's tough when you take a year off." Northbridge dropped to 0-6, but Demagian remained optimistic about his club. "We're going to get a few here and there coming up," he said of potential victories. "We're going to hang in there. We'll be OK. If we start swinging the bat a little more, we'll be fine." Northbridge's final game before press time was a 9-3 loss to Hudson Post 100 on Thursday, June 29, as their record dropped to 0-7.



Nick Ethier

Cherry Valley ace pitcher Evan Remington was lights out against Northbridge, firing a complete game two-hitter.

www.StonebridgePress.com

Stonebridge Press

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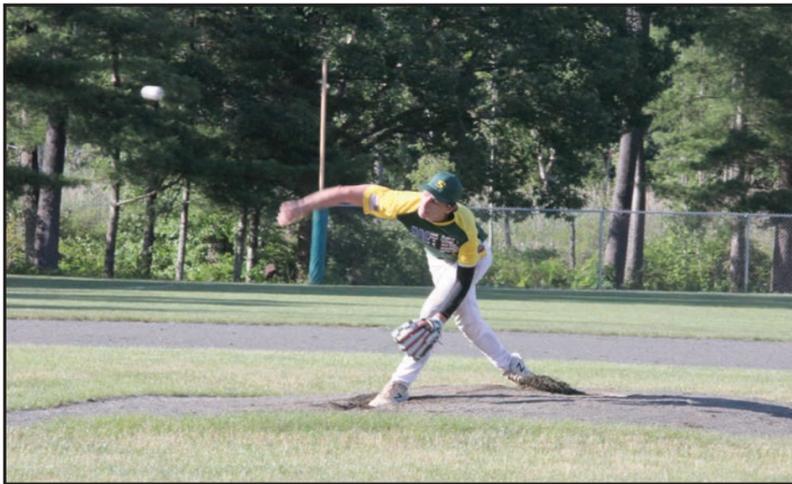
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SPORTS



Sturbridge's Joe Amaru lets go of a pitch versus East Side.

Nick Ethier



After an East Side player swings and misses, Sturbridge catcher Ethan LaPlante prepares to squeeze his glove to catch the ball.

Nick Ethier

Sturbridge continually showed fight against East Side before eventually dropping decision

STURBRIDGE — The Sturbridge Post 109 American Legion baseball team has certainly shown improvement over the course of its first eight games — or at the midpoint — of the season. Sturbridge was outscored in its first three games by a combined total of 46-0. Then, after a 9-5 loss to Cherry Valley Post 443, Post 109 dropped a pair of one-run games, first 5-4 to Hudson Post 100 and then 1-0 to North County Post 129. Sturbridge then lost 14-5 to Northborough Post 234 before hosting East Side Post 201 at Tantasqua Regional on Thursday, June 29.

Before the contest with East Side, Post 109 head coach Jim Rosseel noted this his team is making strides toward contention and has been hampered by one or two bad innings in each of the past few contests.

Against East Side, Post 201 scored four runs in the top of the first inning, only for Sturbridge to counter with three runs of their own in the home half of the frame. Then, in the third inning, East Side grabbed two more runs to stay ahead, 6-3, but Post 109 tied the score at 6-6 in the bottom of the frame.

Sturbridge's rallying cry ultimately fell short, though, as East Side won a 13-7 decision, improving to 1-4 in the process. Post 109 dropped to 0-8.

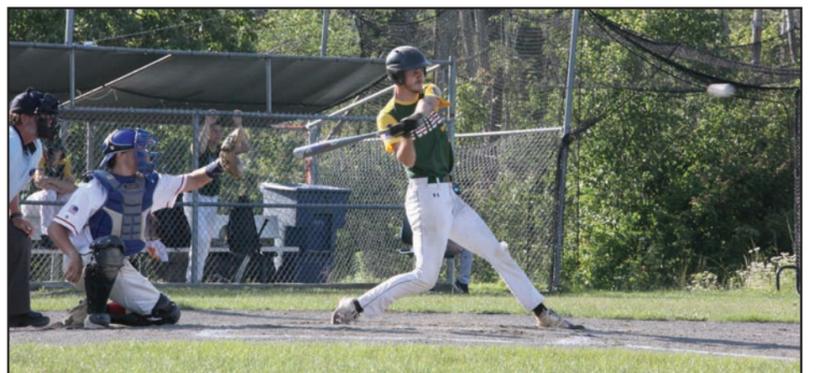
With eight games to go in the season at press time, Rosseel noted that the team's objective is to have a better second half of the year and to win as many games as possible.

Nick Ethier



Third baseman Brandon Phillips of Sturbridge gathers himself before throwing the ball to first base.

Nick Ethier



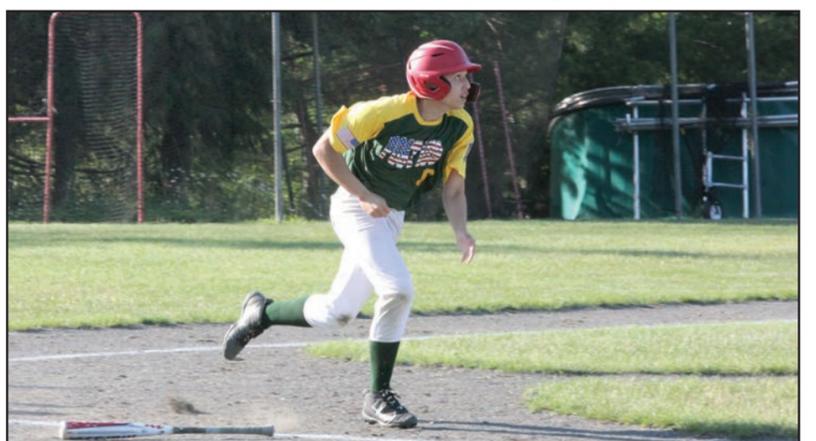
Keenan Wetherbee of Sturbridge eyes the ball and begins his big swing at it.

Nick Ethier



(Right) Shortstop Devin Krochmalnyckj of Sturbridge fires the ball over to first base.

Nick Ethier



Sturbridge's Adriaan De Choudens hustles out of the batter's box and makes his way toward first base.

Nick Ethier

Auburn Recreation and Culture Summer Basketball League Results

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----|
| Boys' League | Hill 32 | Northbridge | 33, |
| Monday, June 26 | Thursday, June 29 | Leicester | 21 |
| Tahanto 46, | Oxford 49, Sutton 45 | Worcester South | 63, |
| Whitinsville Christian, 44 | Standings | Bay Path 20 | |
| Bartlett 76, West | Bartlett (3-0) | Thursday, June 29 | |
| Boylston 34 | Bay Path (3-0) | Millbury 21, Auburn 17 | |
| Auburn 55, Blackstone | Millbury (3-0) | Uxbridge 36, Bay Path | |
| Valley Tech 23 | Northbridge (1-2) | 19 | |
| Bay Path 51, Douglas 29 | Uxbridge (3-0) | Grafton 28, Northbridge | |
| Uxbridge 50, Sutton 39 | Auburn (2-1) | 14 | |
| David Prouty 51, | David Prouty (2-1) | Worcester North | 36, |
| Hopedale 37 | Oxford (2-1) | Sutton 27 | |
| Millbury 50, Grafton 39 | Quabbin (2-1) | Shepherd Hill | 16, |
| Northbridge 57, | Whitinsville Christian | Leicester 16 (forfeit due | |
| Leicester 29 | (2-1) | to injury) | |
| Quabbin 41, Nipmuc 30 | Nipmuc (1-2) | Worcester South | 55, |
| Shepherd Hill 61, | Quaboag (1-2) | Tantasqua 24 | |
| Oxford 32 | Shepherd Hill (1-2) | Standings | |
| Wednesday, June 28 | Southbridge (1-2) | Worcester South (4-0) | |
| Uxbridge defeats | Tahanto (1-2) | Millbury (4-0) | |
| Southbridge (forfeit) | Blackstone Valley Tech | Uxbridge (3-1) | |
| Whitinsville Christian | (1-2) | Worcester North (2-2) | |
| defeats Quaboag (forfeit) | Hopedale (1-2) | Sutton (2-2) | |
| Bartlett 55, Tahanto 51 | Douglas (0-3) | Grafton (2-2) | |
| Blackstone Valley Tech | Grafton (0-3) | Bay Path (2-2) | |
| 56, West Boylston 29 | Leicester (0-3) | Shepherd Hill (2-1-1) | |
| Auburn 66, Douglas 53 | West Boylston (0-3) | Tantasqua (1-3) | |
| Bay Path 54, Hopedale | Sutton (0-3) | Northbridge (1-3) | |
| 41 | Girls' League | Leicester (0-3-1) | |
| Millbury 53, David | Tuesday, June 27 | Auburn (0-4) | |
| Prouty 36 | Millbury 34, Grafton 21 | | |
| Northbridge 50, | Sutton 36, Uxbridge 30 | | |
| Grafton 48 | Worcester North 30, | | |
| Quabbin 38, Leicester | Auburn 22 | | |
| 24 | Tantasqua 45, | | |
| Nipmuc 43, Shepherd | Shepherd Hill 6 | | |

Friday's Child



Arianna
Age 16

Hi! My name is Arianna and I love ballet and circus arts!

Arianna is a sweet and likable girl. Arianna likes to dance; she especially loves ballet and participates in ballet recitals every year. She also loves to participate in circus arts. Arianna enjoys reading a good book. Arianna expressed her interest in being an ABA Therapist in the future.

Arianna is in high school and is thriving with the support of an IEP to meet her academics and social/emotional needs. She does very well with her peers and is able to build and maintain healthy relationships. Arianna flourishes from the encouragement and support of her teachers and caretakers.

Arianna would thrive in a family of any constellation, either with or without other children in the home, which is able to provide her with a stable and consistent environment. An ideal family for Arianna will be able to continue the services she has in place to address her academic and social/emotional needs.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7404>

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. MARE can today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 7/29/2023. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 50% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 7/2/2023 and 7/29/2023. 50% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky[™] consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. ²Review aggregator survey of 5-star reviews among full-service window replacement companies. December 2020 Reputation.com. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of their respective owners. ©2023 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2023 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 31 Woodland Way, Rehoboth, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert D. McKim and Margaret McKim to Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A., said mortgage dated January 30, 2006, and recorded in the Bristol County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 15613 at Page 17 and now held by U.S. Bank National Association by virtue of an assignment from Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation as Receiver of Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A., to U.S. Bank National Association dated January 27, 2010 and recorded in the Bristol County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 18620 at Page 287, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at **Public Auction on July 26, 2023 at 1:00 PM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain parcel of land situated on Woodland Way in the Town of Rehoboth, Bristol County, Massachusetts, being Lot No. 18 as shown on Plan entitled, "Woodland Plat", recorded with Bristol County North District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 61, Page 16, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the northwesterly corner of land now or formerly of Lloyd I. Patterson, et ux, in the easterly line of said Woodland Way; thence, making an interior angle of 86 degrees 36' 30" with said easterly line and running easterly by said Patterson land (Lot No. 16) one hundred sixty-two and 36/100 (162.36) feet and by land now or formerly of Peter Zollo, et ux (Lot No. 17) one hundred forty-three (143) feet to the westerly line of the easterly branch of said Woodland Way; thence, running by the curving line of said Woodland Way, northwesterly, westerly, southwesterly and southerly to said land now or formerly of Lloyd I. Patterson, et ux, to the point of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to Robert D. McKim and Margaret McKim by Deed from Vincent J. Augustine, dated June 20, 1989, and recorded June 29, 1989, at 2:45 p.m. in Book 4170 at page 338 with the Bristol County Northern District Registry of Deeds.

Being Rehoboth Tax Assessor's Plat 44, Lot 52, as presently constituted.

The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagors' Title see deed dated June 20, 1989, and recorded in Book 4170 at Page 338 with the Bristol County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds.

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 by a 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 sixty (60) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

BENDETT & MCHUGH, PC
270 Farmington Avenue

Farmington, CT 06032

Attorney for U.S. Bank National Association

Present Holder of the Mortgage

(860) 677-2868

June 23, 2023

June 30, 2023

July 7, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

**Notice of Simplified License Application pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 91
23-WW-PRE-0069-APP**

NOTIFICATION DATE: July 7, 2023

PERMITTEE: Vincent Kubic

PROJECT SITE ADDRESS: 4 Fairfield Street, Webster, MA 01570

Public notice is hereby given of the application for a Chapter 91 Simplified License by Vincent Kubic to construct/maintain a dock in the waters of Webster Lake at 4 Fairfield Street, Webster, MA 01570.

The Department will consider all written comments on this Waterways application received by within 30 days of the "Notification Date".

Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten citizens or more to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c). The group of citizens must include at least five citizens who are residents of the municipality in which the proposed project is located.

Project plans for this Waterways application are on file for public viewing electronically, by request to dep.waterways@mass.gov. If you do not have access to email, please leave a voice-mail at (617) 292-5929 and you will be contacted with information on alternative options.

It is recommended that public comments be filed electronically with dep.waterways@mass.gov when possible. Alternatively, comments may be mailed to the Waterways Regulation Program at: 1 Winter Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

July 7, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

Notice of General License Certification Application pursuant to 310 CMR 9.29
21-WW-PRE-0068-APP

NOTIFICATION DATE: July 7, 2023

Public notice is hereby given of the application for Certification to the General License by Kenneth A. Morey Jr. and Michelle Sherillo to construct/maintain a Seasonal Dock in the waters of Webster Lake at 31 Wakefield Ave Webster MA 01570.

The Webster MA Planning Board will consider all written comments on this Waterways application received within 30 days of the "Notification Date".

Project plans and documents for this application are on file with the Webster MA Planning Board. Written comments must be addressed to: The Webster MA Planning Board. Please send comments to: Webster MA Planning Board, Webster Town Hall, 350 Main Street Webster, MA 01570.

July 7, 2023

**(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 23 SM 002536
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:

**David J. Peterson, Jr., as Personal Representative of the Estate of Gloria E. Van Van
David J. Peterson, Jr.**

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

AJX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Webster, numbered 60 Granite Street, given by **Gloria E. Van Van to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Mid-Island Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated August 28, 2009, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44801, Page 64,** and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 08/07/2023 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 6/23/2023.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

July 7, 2023

**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. WO23P2170EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

Estate of:

Leo Williams

Also known as:

Leo Francis Williams

Date of Death: 03/02/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by

Jean Vanbael of Putnam CT

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

Jean Vanbael of Putnam CT

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection **at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/25/2023.**

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

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

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

Date: June 26, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

July 7, 2023

**(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**

23 SM 002541

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:

Elizabeth A. Hatch

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 individually but solely as trustee for FINANCE OF AMERICA STRUCTURED SECURITIES ACQUISITION TRUST 2018-HBI

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Webster**, numbered **57 Hillside Avenue**, given by Elizabeth A. Hatch and Walter M. Lewinski to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Urban Financial Group its successors and assigns, dated August 6, 2012, and recorded or filed in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 49450, Page 383, and now held by 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 08/07/2023 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 6/23/2023

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

July 7, 2023

**DUDLEY CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Public Hearing Notice**

A **Public Hearing** will be held at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street in Dudley, MA at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 to consider a **Request for Determination of Applicability** of the construction of a second floor addition with a rear yard overhang for the property located at 24 Lakeview Avenue for Karlee Giroux.

This is a Public Hearing under the requirements of G.L. CH. 131 §40, as amended. Plans are available at the Dudley Conservation office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9:00-4:00 PM.

For more information, call 508-949-8011.

July 7, 2023

July 14, 2023



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Webster Lake 27 South Point Road



SORRY, SOLD!

OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- ft sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage, **\$811,000.**

Webster Lake 13 Bates Point Road



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DUDLEY

continued from page 1

ingrained in the identity of Dudley. The situation has created a noticeable divide in the community between those who feel the town needs to step up and support funding the budget in full and those who feel they cannot afford the added tax burden. Regardless, as things currently stand, Dudley finds itself struggling to forge a path forward as the slimmed down budget will mean the loss of services integral to the town's identity for nearly a decade.

This became even more evident as the Dudley Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee came to the table in what promises to be just the first of many meetings in the coming weeks and months. Earlier in June Selectmen invited the fire department, police department, and highway department to discuss their projected cuts with all three warning of losses of personnel, less public safety initiatives, and less availability for first responders. These concerns were reiterated during the June 26 meeting with one of the most prominent calls to action coming from Dudley Fire Captain and Union President Steven Chanard who said the cuts will make it nearly impossible for the department to address everything from cardiac events to car accidents, fires, and the like in time to save lives while preserving the safety of the employees. Speaking for his fellow firefighters, he asked everyone, citizens and elected officials alike, to step up and support public safety.

"This is unsafe for the taxpayers and unsafe for the community. I don't live in town. I live in the next town over, but I've given my life to this town since I've been on this department - I'm asking for the support," said Chanard.

Numerous members of the Dudley Fire Department attended the meeting in a show of support and later in the week stood outside of the department to show solidarity with two employees laid off as a result of the new budget taking effect on July 1.

While public safety cuts have been at the center of the initial budget talks, other town departments will also be greatly impacted. Dudley Principal Assessor Lisa Berg said her department will essentially be closed to the public and that she has already lost her clerk to a higher paying job.

"I don't know of any assessor in the state of Massachusetts that can run an office with one person. I maintain over 5,100 parcels. I have projects going on above and beyond what my office does right now. My office will be closed. The public will not be able to get the services that I could supply before," said Berg.

Library Board of Trustees co-chair Benjamin Craver had the same warning: the Pearle L. Crawford Memorial Library will close if the budget stands.

"Once this happens, the Pearl Crawford Library is closed. There's no getting around it, and area town libraries do not have to service us. They don't have to help us or do a dang thing for

the population of Dudley," said Craver.

The library could also lose its accreditation which Craver said could lead the state to force Dudley to repay the money provided to build the library.

Throughout the meeting town officials continued to address accusations made on social media that they are employing scare tactics by cutting public safety first. The Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, and even Fire Chief Dean Kochanowski revealed they had all received negative comments on social media, and in some cases in person. Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda decried these accusations, calling them simply untrue.

"I'm at the point now with the social media nonsense that I've had enough, and the very idea that we spent the last week targeting public safety first because I hadn't had a chance to go through an additional almost million dollars in cuts over a failed override budget...let's be very clear about it. We

didn't target anybody first. What we're targeting now is to try to maintain basic safety services at this point. That's where we are with this budget process," said Ruda. "The idea that we were using scare tactics to hit public safety first...I don't think the fire chief, police chief, or the highway superintendent think that so I can't imagine where that nonsense came from. It's certainly not the case."

After around two hours of discussion, the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee decided not to make any recommendations, but a motion was made to hold a special town meeting for the budget with a date to be determined. The town has until roughly July 29 to decide on the new school assessment while also juggling the cuts resulting from the decreased spending plan. Officials were scheduled to meet on June 29 to continue planning out a meeting date and further discuss how to move forward with the new fiscal year starting on July 1.

HISSET

continued from page 1

"It is the dedication and commitment of these individuals that lead them to choose the path towards a brighter, healthier future," said Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "Education is one of the best investments you can make in yourself. This diploma will create new opportunities and help you overcome barriers you once thought too difficult."

Kimberly Roy, Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commissioner, was the ceremony's guest speaker. The Commissioner explained to the graduates that they are in good company. Nicole Kidman, Mark Wahlberg, Colonel Sanders, and Albert Einstein, all dropped out of high school for various reasons.

"They all eventually returned, like you, to finish their high school degree,"

commented Commissioner Roy. "Whether it's acting, making Wahlburgers, buckets of chicken, or becoming a theoretical physicist, they just like you are huge impact people."

Webster Center Staff addressed the group by thanking the graduates for staying devoted to their studies and reminding them that the Webster Center always serves as a resource to them.

"Our center and dedicated

staff are committed to working hard each day to serve individuals in our community who want to help themselves," stated Evangelidis. "Congratulations to today's graduates who have overcome challenges in their lives and are now on a better path."

To learn more about how the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Webster Center may be able to assist you, please call 508-640-5044.

HINT

continued from page 9

**

Cucumber Soup

This cucumber soup has a bright, garden taste. It is a delicious and creative way to use up an overabundance of garden cukes.

Ingredients: 3 cups of cucumbers, peeled, seeded and sliced; 1 onion, sliced, four tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped; 1/4 tsp. Salt; 1/2 tsp dill; 2 tablespoons oil; two tablespoons cornstarch;
2 cups of water; 2 cups milk (may use light or skim) ; 1/4 tsp pepper.

Directions: Pour oil into a large

pan and sauté cucumbers, onion, and parsley. Add salt and dill and cook until vegetables are translucent. Meanwhile mix water and cornstarch in a bowl. Pour into pan and stir on medium heat until thickened. Slowly add milk and continue to stir until soup is creamy. Allow to simmer for a few minutes. Add freshly ground pepper and garnish each bowl with fresh dill before serving. Makes four hearty servings.

**

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on

Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

DCRSD

continued from page 1

The School Committee unanimously approved the motion to allow for the one-year contract extension as long as the price remained below 13 cents. The district's current contract expires in November of 2024, at which time the one-year extension with the new rate will apply meaning the new rate will not take hold until Fiscal Year 2025.



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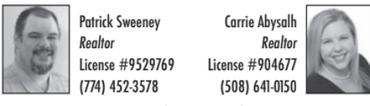
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| <p>AMANA</p> <p>REG \$629 \$479</p> <p>AMANA LARGE CAPACITY TOP LOAD WASHER WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY AGITATOR MODEL# NTW4519 JW AMANA 4.5 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH WRINKLE PREVENT OPTION MODEL# NE24655EW</p> | <p>MAYTAG</p> <p>REG \$799 \$549 SAVE \$500 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE</p> <p>MAYTAG 4.5 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH POWER AGITATOR AND EXTRA POWER CYCLE MODEL# MYW4562HW MAYTAG 7.0 ELECTRIC DRYER WITH ADVANCED MOISTURE SENSOR TO PREVENT OVER DRYING MODEL# ME34500HW</p> | <p>Profile</p> <p>REG \$999 \$729 SAVE \$540 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE</p> <p>GE PROFILE 5.3 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH SMARTER WASH TECHNOLOGY AND FLEX DISPENSE MODEL# PTW7055TWS GE PROFILE 7.4 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND SENSOR DRY MODEL# PTD70E8TWS</p> | <p>Electrolux</p> <p>REG \$1049 \$799 SAVE \$500 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE</p> <p>ELECTROLUX 4.5 CU FT FRONT LOAD WASHER WITH LUX CARE WASH SYSTEM WITH 18 MINUTE FAST WASH MODEL# ELFW7437AW ELECTROLUX 8.0 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH INSTANT REFRESH AND INSTANT REFRESH CYCLE MODEL# ELFE7437AW</p> | <p>WINDOW AND PORTABLE AIR-CONDITIONERS IN STOCK AND ON SALE</p> <p>GE APPLIANCES FRIGIDAIRE LG FRIEDRICH</p> |
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| <p>GE APPLIANCES</p> <p>REG \$949 \$679 SAVE 28%</p> <p>GE 5.3 CU FT SELF-CLEANING ELECTRIC OVEN WITH DUAL ELEMENT BAKE MODEL# JB645RKS5</p> | <p>MAYTAG</p> <p>REG \$1249 \$849 SAVE \$400</p> <p>MAYTAG 5.3 CU FT ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR FRY AND BASKET MODEL# MER7700LZ</p> | <p>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY</p> <p>REG \$2099 \$1599 SAVE \$500</p> <p>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY FRONT CONTROL INDUCTION RANGE WITH TRUE CONVECTION AND AIR-FRY MODEL# FGIH3047VF</p> | <p>GE APPLIANCES</p> <p>REG \$1199 \$799 SAVE \$400</p> <p>GE 5 CU FT FREE STANDING GAS CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# JGB735PSS</p> | <p>LG</p> <p>REG \$1749 \$1199 SAVE 31%</p> <p>LG 5.8 CU FT SMART WI-FI ENABLED CONVECTION GAS SLIDE-IN RANGE WITH AIR-FRY MODEL# LSG5832F</p> |
| <p>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY</p> <p>REG \$729 \$499 SAVE \$230</p> <p>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY POCKET HANDLE DISHWASHER WITH ORBIT CLEAN WASH SYSTEM MODEL# GDPP4515AF</p> | <p>MAYTAG</p> <p>REG \$379 \$549 SAVE \$330</p> <p>MAYTAG FRONT CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS TUB AND DUAL POWER FILTRATION MODEL# M0B8495KZ</p> | <p>Profile</p> <p>REG \$1149 \$799 SAVE 30%</p> <p>GE PROFILE TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR AND SANITIZE AND DRY BOOST OPTIONS MODEL# P0T155YNFS</p> | <p>KitchenAid</p> <p>REG \$1149 \$779 SAVE \$370</p> <p>KITCHENAID SILENT 39 DECIBEL DISHWASHER WITH THIRD LEVEL UTENSIL RACK AND PRO WASH MODEL# K0TE204KPS</p> | <p>BOSCH</p> <p>REG \$399 \$809</p> <p>BOSCH 100 SERIES 3 RACK 48 DECIBEL DISHWASHER AND PRECISION WASH SYSTEM MODEL# S0XMA4Y55H</p> |

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