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Friday, May 15, 2026

## Volunteers restore a mile of trails in Douglas State Forest



DOUGLAS — A cool, crisp morning on April 18th made ideal conditions for a major trailclearing effort in Douglas State Forest. Eighteen volunteers from the Bay State Trail Riders Association (BSTRA), along with two staff members from the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), spent the day improving access on two wellused trails.

Volunteers split into two crews, with one team working along the Laurel Trail and the other heading to the Eagle Bridge Trail across Route 16. Both areas had become heavily

overgrown with mountain laurel, making the work especially important ahead of the busy spring season.

DCR Supervisor Joseph Taylor and Tom Giguere led the Eagle Bridge crew, running brushcutters while volunteers followed behind to clear and prune. On the Laurel Trail, BSTRA's Becky Kalagher operated the brushcutter with volunteers assisting on both ends of the corridor. The group was joined by former Douglas State Forest Supervisor Cary VandenAkke, adding a welcome touch of history to the day.

By early afternoon, the teams had completed one full mile of trail improvements—restoring the entire Laurel Trail and a significant portion of the Eagle Bridge Trail. In total, volunteers contributed 63 hours of labor, with additional support from DCR staff.

BSTRA provided lunch for the hardworking crew, and the organization extended its appreciation to all who participated, including several volunteers who traveled long distances to help maintain the local trail system.

## UniBank to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary

WHITINSVILLE — UniBank, the largest mutually-owned Community Bank headquartered in Central Massachusetts, plans to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of The United States of America with Community-Focused Initiatives.

In celebration of America's 250th anniversary, UniBank is proud to announce a series of community initiatives honoring the nation's founding while reaffirming the bank's deep-rooted commitment to local prosperity, civic engagement, and the enduring values that have shaped both the country and the communities UniBank serves. Such initiatives include UniBank sponsored community fireworks, UniBank providing (12) \$2,500 Grants to public libraries to support educational programs on June 26 at Polar Park in Worcester before the Worcester Red Sox game, decorated branches, and Patriotic themed giveaways

from each UniBank branch location.

"The 250th anniversary of America is more than a historical marker—it's a moment to reflect on who we are and recommit ourselves to what comes next," said Ed Augustus, CEO of UniBank. "As a community bank, UniBank has always believed that strong local institutions are essential to a strong democracy. This celebration gives us the opportunity to honor our shared history and double down on our promise to support the people, businesses, and organizations that make our communities thrive."

Augustus emphasized that UniBank's role extends beyond banking services. "For generations, banks like UniBank have helped fuel the American story by empowering individuals to buy their first homes, entrepreneurs to grow their businesses, and communities to build lasting infrastructure," he said. "Celebrating America at 250 reminds us that progress happens when institutions stay grounded

in service, trust, and long-term responsibility."

"At its core, this anniversary is about people," Augustus added. "UniBank is honored to stand alongside our communities as we celebrate America's past and help shape a strong, inclusive future for the next generation."

About UniBank  
UniBank is headquartered in Whitinsville, MA., with assets of \$3 Billion as of April 30, 2026. A full-service, mutually-owned community bank, UniBank has branches in Central Massachusetts and the MetroWest region of Massachusetts. UniBank is dedicated to contributing to the overall quality of life and economic health of the communities it serves, while maintaining an elevated level of financial soundness and integrity. UniBank is an Equal Housing Lender and Member FDIC. NMLS #583135. The company website is [www.unibank.com](http://www.unibank.com).

## BVT competitors earn 46 SkillsUSA medals at state conference

UPTON — The 52nd SkillsUSA State Leadership & Skills Conference was held on May 1 at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT). The annual event welcomed approximately 2,100 district champions along with notable dignitaries. It showcased vocational technical training at its finest.

BVT's Superintendent-

Director Anthony E. Steele II said the school was honored to serve as the host site for the opening ceremonies. "We've hosted the SkillsUSA Massachusetts State Conference and hands-on competitions for twenty years. It's an impressive undertaking for everyone involved."

BVT's student competitors achieved outstanding results and earned 46 medals: 19 gold, 24 silver, and

3 bronze. Madison Denise of Upton, a sophomore in BVT's Cosmetology program at BVT, was elected as a State Officer for the 2026-2027 school year. These achievements are a testament to the students' hard work and dedication.

Gold medalists will advance to the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in

Turn To MEDALS page A9

## Northbridge Senior Center hosts elegant Mother's Day Tea celebration



NORTHBRIDGE — The Northbridge Senior Center recently welcomed guests to a beautifully appointed Mother's Day Tea that brought together community members for an afternoon of elegance, conversation, and celebration.

The senior center was transformed into a warm and inviting tearoom, with tables decorated in festive coverings, delicate floral accents, and carefully arranged place settings that created a truly welcoming atmosphere. Guests arrived in their spring attire and colorful hats, adding charm and sophistication to the occasion and making the room feel like a classic garden tea party. Laughter and conversation filled the room as friends gathered to celebrate Mother's Day and enjoy the afternoon together.

Program speaker Janet Parnes from Historical Portrayals by Lady J., entertained guests with her portrayal of Deborah Sampson, a farm girl on the front lines bringing history to life through an engaging and educa-

Turn To TEA page A12



# Hayes, of Whitinsville, graduates from Regis College

BOSTON — Nikolas Hayes, of Whitinsville, graduated with a Business Management degree from Regis College during its May 9, 2026 Commencement. Hayes was among more than 1,000 students who received degrees ranging from associate to doctorate.

With her approaching retirement on June 30, Antoinette Hays, PhD, RN, reflected on her 15 years as president in her final remarks to the graduating class.

"I have had the privilege of witnessing you discover your voices and your purpose. Of working alongside dedicated faculty and staff who bring the Regis mission to life every day. I will always be grateful for the tenacity, compassion, and resilience of this incredible community. As we acknowledge your accomplishments today, whether it be an associate, bachelors, masters, or doctoral, know that it is an extraordinary achievement," she said. "It is the result of hard work, the support of your family and friends, the caring and compassionate Regs community - a community to which you will be forever linked - and the enduring values of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston. For 41 years, Regis' values have guided me throughout my journey and have influenced how I live and work. I hope they have formed you too."

President Hays was awarded an honorary degree for her compassionate and visionary leadership. This year's commencement marks the conclusion of President Hays' leadership of the university.

Kerry Kennedy, President of the Robert & Ethel Kennedy Human Rights Center delivered the com-

mencement address and received an honorary degree.

"When President Hays asked me to speak today, I didn't hesitate. With its Catholic roots and commitment to service, Regis holds a special place in my heart," she said. "As you graduate, I encourage you to take some time to reflect on the lessons you learned at this uniquely ambitious experiment of a college and what you'd like to carry forward for the rest of your lives. The lessons you learned, the importance of teamwork, and most of all, building partnerships and community will make a profound difference."

Kennedy is an attorney and author who has devoted more than 40 years to the pursuit of equal justice and the promotion and protection of basic rights. She currently serves on the board of directors of the United States Institute of Peace, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation Laureate and Leaders, as well as Kennedy Human Rights Center's numerous international affiliates. She is on the advisory committee for the Association of American Indian Affairs, the Albert Schweitzer Institute, Sankofa, San Patrignano, and the Center for Victims of Torture, and the NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights. Kennedy served as chair of the Amnesty International USA Leadership Council for over a decade. Among her many accolades, she received the humanitarian award from the Congress of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

Honorary degrees were also awarded to Kathleen Jose '87, '94, MSN, RN, former chair of the university's board and chief nursing officer of Lahey Health;

Tracy Palandjian, MBA, co-founder and CEO of Social Finance; and Gerald Algere, senior vice president and managing director of institutional banking at The Washington Trust Company.

The Class of 2026 President Sarai Velez '26 and Graduate Student Speaker Lilla Torontali '24, G'26 also imparted words of inspiration on the Class of 2026.

"We learned through our time at Regis that we will fail; that things will not always go our way. In fact, we may fail more than we succeed," Velez '26 said. "But we will succeed. We will work harder, we will try again, and we will persevere. Because our resilience got us here today. We will leave this pavilion stronger and wiser than the freshmen who arrived four years ago. These degrees are a testament to our determination, and together we go into the world ready to serve the dear neighbor."

"Regis believed in us before we believed in ourselves. And now, it is our turn. Wherever you go after today, you carry that belief with you," said Torontali '24, G'26, who flew in from Denmark to receive her degree. "We leave with degrees, yes, but we also leave knowing what it feels like to be seen without distinction, supported without hesitation, and welcomed without condition. May we offer that same hospitality to others. May we choose to see potential before it is proven. May we believe in someone before they believe in themselves. Because that is the legacy of this institution: one that proves every day that greatness is never measured by size, but by heart."



**PET of the WEEK**

**MEET Benji**

Benji has been waiting far too long for his chance. Found as a stray, he missed out on the structure and guidance every dog deserves—and he's been making up for lost time ever since. Through it all, one thing has never changed: Benji loves people. Everyone he meets is a friend. He enjoys car rides, outings, and walks nicely on leash—including walks with canine friends. He's incredibly smart and loves training. He'll even entertain himself by picking toys out of his toy box and happily playing on his own. And when he settles in? His cuddles are the kind that make everything else fade away.

Benji does get overstimulated at times, which shows up as jumpy, mouthy behavior. This isn't unusual for dogs who haven't had consistent structure—but it does mean he needs someone experienced who understands these behaviors and can guide him with clear boundaries and consistency. Benji is looking for a foster or adopter who can offer:

- Adult-only (or possibly teen+) home
- The only pet in the home
- Experience with jumpy/mouthy or high-arousal dogs
- A structured, consistent environment
- Time to decompress and adjust

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Notable casino destination
  - 6. Current units
  - 10. Roman military unit
  - 14. American lizard
  - 15. Fates
  - 17. The Yankees have lots of these
  - 19. Unhappy
  - 20. Mimic
  - 21. Remove from the record
  - 22. Where cargo ships dock (abbr.)
  - 23. A way to fight
  - 24. Turfs
  - 26. Contract
  - 29. Country along the Arabian peninsula
  - 31. Tree species
  - 32. Pituitary gland secretion (abbr.)
  - 34. Perfect
  - 35. "Partner" to groans
  - 37. Jewish calendar month
  - 38. Where wrestlers work
  - 39. Egotistical
  - 40. Potted plants
  - 41. Containers
  - 43. Large, flightless birds
  - 45. Part of a book
  - 46. American spies
  - 47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
  - 49. Swiss river
  - 50. Disfigure
  - 53. Have surgery
  - 57. Formal withdrawal
  - 58. Early English council
  - 59. Area units
  - 60. 2,000 lbs.
  - 61. Siskel and \_\_\_

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Animal jaws
  - 2. Small water buffalo
  - 3. An appliance has one
  - 4. Every
  - 5. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
  - 6. Very skilled
  - 7. No more than what is specified
  - 8. Tire measurement
  - 9. Towers
  - 10. Forward
  - 11. Jacob \_\_\_, American journalist
  - 12. Vale
  - 13. Former CIA
  - 16. Middle Eastern nation
  - 18. Exhausts
  - 22. South Dakota
  - 23. The complete duration of something
  - 24. Kids love him
  - 25. Singular
  - 27. Cod genus
  - 28. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
  - 29. Resistance unit
  - 30. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
  - 31. Cast out
  - 33. 60-minute periods
  - 35. Most worn
  - 36. European river
  - 37. Atomic mass unit
  - 39. Items of food
  - 42. Body parts
  - 43. Ireland
  - 44. Partner to Pa
  - 46. Sammy \_\_\_, songwriter
  - 47. Dutch settler
  - 48. Full-grown pike fish
  - 49. Sun or solar disk
  - 50. Minute arachnid
  - 51. From a distance
  - 52. A monthly expense
  - 53. Young women's association
  - 54. Brazilian state
  - 55. Air freight provider
  - 56. Pointed end of a pen

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**


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## Reserve a space at Community House Vendor Fair

UXBRIDGE — If you're looking for a venue to display your goods, a vendor Fair is being planned for Sept. 26 at the Community House in Uxbridge at 8 Court St. Table space is available for a donation of \$30. We are hoping for a wide variety of Vendors. Participants are encouraged to bring their own tables but tables will be available for an addition donation of \$10/\$15, depending on size.

We are hoping by starting early in the fall, we will all have a chance to enjoy the day, before the busy holiday season begins. The Fair is being sponsored by the Uxbridge Congregational Church which is located behind the common. The Community House is next to the church and easily accessible at 8 Court Street. Parking is available

The Fair will be an inside event and will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., regardless of the weather. Set up time will be 8:30 a.m. Please call to reserve your space. For more information, please call or send an email to dataless1@yahoo.com or call 508-244-7849. We hope you will join us, have fun and display your items to the community.




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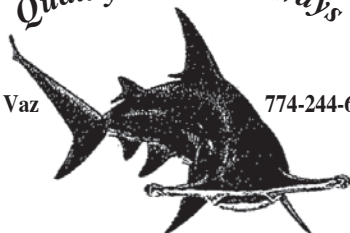
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\$775,000, 578 Carpenter Rd, Sansone, David S, and Sansone, Melissa J, to Kerrie A Onorato Ret, and Onorato, Kerrie A.  
\$644,637, 169 Rolling Ridge Dr #97, Stone Hill Partners LLC, to Mccarthy Jr, George Edwar.

**UXBRIDGE**  
\$713,410, 205-A Crownshield Ave, Tmd Re Hldg-Uxbridge LLC, to Thotakura, Varalakshmi, and Thotakura, Srinivasa Rao.  
\$697,878, 207-A Crownshield Ave #18-A, Tmd Re Hldg-Uxbridge LLC, to Goswami, Eshwar, and Bhagavatula, Bala Ts.  
\$650,000, 12-14 Hartford Ave #E, Bk Ferreira LLC, to Silva, Wesley.  
\$125,000, 29 Glendale St, Larson, Margaret C, and Termini, Carla, to Rogjef Inc.

**Ware**  
\$550,000, 201 Upper Church St, Harder, Joel J, to Fauteux, Crait, and Fauteux, Kathleen.

# Interpretive programs this month at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park

UXBRIDGE — All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. Programs meet in the River Bend Farm Visitor Center unless otherwise stated. Bringing bug spray is encouraged. Programming is subject to change or cancellation. For the most up to date programming information, call (508) 278-7604 or visit [bit.ly/blstupdates](http://bit.ly/blstupdates).

Reasonable accommodations available upon advance notice. To make a request, please contact Moneesha Dasgupta at (617) 645-0358 or [moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov](mailto:moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov).

Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park is located at 287 Oak St., Uxbridge.

Recurring Programs  
K i d l e i d o s c o p e

Fridays, 9:30 – 11 a.m. Join us each week! We will read a book, then do an activity and craft that relates to the story. Each week has a different theme, so stop by often!

Appropriate for ages three to six, siblings welcome.

Farm to Factory Exhibit Tour  
Sundays, 11 – 11:30 a.m. Explore the story of the Blackstone Valley and its communities from pre-European settlement through European style agricultural development, industrialization, and into today.

Appropriate for ages 12 and up.

Special Walks, Talks, and Hikes

Becoming Better Stewards – The CCC at Upton State Forest Tour  
Saturday, May 9, 1 – 2 p.m. Explore the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp at Upton State Forest and uncover the stories and

work behind this New Deal era program. Discover how the CCC shaped the forest and explore ways to help keep places like this healthy and protected.

Meet at the CCC camp parking area ([bit.ly/uptnccc](http://bit.ly/uptnccc)). The walk is less than a quarter mile over a paved surface with no inclines. Appropriate for ages 12 and up. Water is not available at this site.

Israel Plummer's Canal Store Tour  
Saturday, May 23, 1 – 2 p.m. Take a guided walk with us down Plummer's Landing and learn about the enterprising, canal-era businessman that it's named after.

Meet at the Plummer's Landing parking area ([bit.ly/plummer-landing](http://bit.ly/plummer-landing)). The walk is roughly two miles over a rugged forest surface with moderate inclines. Appropriate for ages 12 and up. Bathrooms and water are not available at this site.

## Audrey Tanner among Flagler College graduating class

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. — Flagler College will celebrate the academic and personal accomplishments of Audrey Tanner, from Uxbridge, and more than 600 graduates from the Class of 2026.

Flagler's Class of 2026 reflects a generation of graduates who are as capable as they are curious. Through rigorous academics and hands-on learning, they have developed the skills and perspective to contribute meaningfully wherever their path leads next.

This year's class reflects a broad range of experiences and perspectives, including 21 international students and domestic students representing 34 states.

The Class of 2026 reflects a wide range of experiences and perspectives, spanning generations and life paths. Among the graduates is the College's oldest graduate, a 59-year-old earning a degree in Public Administration, alongside its youngest, a 19-year-old completing a degree in Communication with a focus in Public Relations. Together, they represent the breadth of ambition and opportunity that defines the Flagler experience. The class also includes 16 military veterans, whose service and leadership have enriched the campus community and continue to shape their academic journeys.

The most represented majors among graduating seniors are Psychology (87), Business Administration (68), Coastal Environmental Science (61), Criminology (47), Marketing (29), Graphic Design (26), Sport Management (24), and Hospitality and Tourism Management (22).

Tanner, from Uxbridge, will be honored with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

In total, the Class of 2026 will be awarded 689 degrees: 515 Bachelor of Arts, 13 Bachelor of Fine Arts, and 143 Bachelor of Science, along with 7 Master of Arts and 11 Master of Public Administration. Each degree reflects a rigorous academic journey and stands as a testament to the graduates' hard work and dedication.

Experiential learning has been a defining feature of the Flagler experience, with 92 percent of graduates participating in hands-on opportunities during their time at the College. This commitment transforms St. Augustine's Historic Coast into a dynamic classroom and living laboratory.

Academic excellence is also strongly represented, with more than one-third of the class graduating with honors. This includes 92 students

earning Cum Laude (GPA 3.5-3.64), 98 earning Magna Cum Laude (GPA 3.65-3.79), and 75 earning Summa Cum Laude (GPA 3.8-4.0).

Among the graduates are 91 student athletes who have balanced the demands of competition and coursework while representing Flagler at the highest level. As members of championship-caliber teams, they have developed discipline, resilience, and leadership skills that extend far beyond the field of play. Many have also made a meaningful impact off the field, giving back through community service and outreach efforts throughout St. Augustine.

Additionally, 26 students completed Flagler's Honors Program, earning a distinction noted on their academic transcripts. These students were among the top 5% of their class invited to join the program as first-year students. Flagler's commitment to global learning is also evident, with more than one-third of the class participating in programs such as FlagSHIP, study abroad experiences, and international exchanges.

Now, Tanner will join Flagler's growing alumni network, individuals who continue to demonstrate the value of a Flagler education through their impact and achievements around the world, and make history.

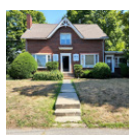


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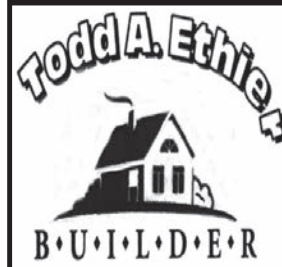
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a story. Music and TV shows are also favorites of his, bringing him comfort and enjoyment throughout the day. Korben especially enjoys spending time with people who are patient and attentive. Whether he's listening to a favorite book, enjoying music, or simply being near others, he thrives in environments where he feels supported and cared for.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/21187524165>

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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](http://www.mareinc.org). Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.





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**FRANK G.  
CHILINSKI**  
PRESIDENT &  
PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN  
BERUBE**  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# Clearing the way together

There is something quietly encouraging about seeing neighbors come together on a cool spring morning to improve a place that belongs to everyone.

The recent trail clearing effort at Douglas State Forest may not have generated headlines far beyond the local community, but it reflected something important about the spirit of small towns and the value of shared public spaces. Eighteen volunteers from the Bay State Trail Riders Association joined staff from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation to restore overgrown sections of the Laurel Trail and Eagle Bridge Trail ahead of the busy spring and summer season.

The work itself was not glamorous. Clearing thick mountain laurel, pruning branches, and opening narrow corridors takes patience, sweat, and persistence. It is the kind of labor many people never notice until it does not get done. Yet by the end of the day, volunteers had restored a full mile of trails and contributed dozens of hours of work to improve access for hikers, horseback riders, nature lovers, and families who enjoy Douglas State Forest throughout the year.

Public lands often exist in a delicate balance. State agencies oversee thousands of acres with limited staffing and tight budgets. Maintenance backlogs can quickly grow. Trails become overgrown, bridges weather, signs fade, and access slowly deteriorates. Volunteer organizations help bridge that gap, not by replacing professional stewardship, but by strengthening it.

What stands out most about this effort is not simply the work completed, but the cooperation behind it. Experienced DCR staff worked side by side with volunteers. Former forest supervisors returned to lend a hand. Some participants traveled long distances simply because they cared about preserving trails for others to enjoy.

That kind of civic participation matters. In an era when much public conversation centers on division, it is refreshing to see people gathering around a practical common purpose. No one asked who used the trails most. No one argued about politics or ideology. They simply saw a need and showed up.

Outdoor spaces like Douglas State Forest play an increasingly important role in community health and quality of life. Families use them for recreation. Seniors walk trails for exercise. Children experience nature there for the first time. In many ways, forests and trails serve as quiet gathering places where people reconnect not only with nature, but with one another.

Volunteer stewardship also teaches an important lesson about ownership and responsibility. Public spaces do not remain healthy and welcoming by accident. They depend on communities willing to invest time and care into maintaining them. Whether through trail work, litter clean-ups, conservation efforts, or local beautification projects, these acts of service create stronger towns and stronger connections between residents.

The volunteers who worked in Douglas State Forest likely did not expect recognition. Most community volunteers rarely do. But their effort deserves appreciation because it reflects the very best qualities of local life: cooperation, generosity, and pride in shared places.

As warmer weather draws more people outdoors in the months ahead, many visitors will walk those cleared trails without ever knowing who made the experience possible. That is often how volunteer work goes. The reward is not attention, but the knowledge that others can safely and comfortably enjoy something preserved through collective effort.

And perhaps that is the real lesson here. Communities remain strong not because of grand gestures, but because ordinary people continue to quietly show up for one another and for the places they call home.

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### I don't agree with Rick

To the Editor:

I don't agree with anything Rick writes. He should try being pithy instead of such a

blatherskite.

PHYLLIS KUIK  
UXBRIDGE

### Mass. fraud

To the Editor:

Did you know that Beacon Hill just passed a new state budget of \$63 billion, an increase of \$81 million? No welfare fraud reform, no voter ID, no cuts in taxes.

Beacon Hill is complaining bitterly about two tax cutting referendums on the November ballot. They object that the two ballot questions will "cut the Commonwealth's revenues by \$5 billion." Vote for both tax cut referendums!

The "Commonwealth's" revenues? Who do the revenues belong to?

Us. Those are our revenues, our tax dollars. We have a right to remove them from the hands of legislators who have never worked a day in their lives. And spend our tax dollars like Communists. Because they are Communists.

Who will pay for the new increased state budget? You the shorn sheep taxpayer who cannot afford your highest in the nation electricity and gas rates, fourth highest in the nation housing costs, and increased local property taxes due to cuts in local aid.

Now, 54 towns are proposing overrides to Proposition 2 1/2, which limits real estate tax hikes. 97 towns have not proposed over rides. A few have approved overrides: Brookline, Edgartown, Salem, and Arlington.

The cause of overrides? Our Communist state distributes less and less local aid to cities and towns at rates below the national average. If our state were providing local aid that matches national norms, cities and towns would have an additional \$1.8 billion! Remember, we spent \$4 billion on illegals.

Beacon Hill consistently limits local aid, then blames Proposition 2 1/2. But it's not Prop 2 1/2. It's the Communists. The Prop 2 1/2 override in South Hadley would have increased property taxes by 50 per cent. Voters voted No. The city of New Bedford is receiving the same amount of local aid as it received in 2008.

Do you notice all those For Sale signs? Folks are leaving, young healthy hard-working folks or retired folks with a good pension. Are you feeling alone on this sinking boat? Tax payers are jumping overboard. Swimming to low tax shores.

Do you know that the Communists on Beacon Hill voted for this budget, 149 to 9? We conservatives have no representation. I guess we should take our tax money and leave. We have no represen-

tation in Washington, either, except for President Trump. Forty per cent of our state voted for him in 2024. Do we in New England have 40 percent representation in D.C.? Nope. Not one Republican Senator or Representative in all 5 New England states due to extreme Gerrymandering.

Can you say "taxation without representation?"

Beacon Hill spends \$1 out of every \$4 on welfare. We have massive welfare. TANF – Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. SNAP (Supplemental Money for those who are legitimately unable to work and for able bodied adults who refuse to work), Medicaid, Housing Assistance.

And what have we gotten for it? Twice as many Massachusetts residents are on TANF as the national average. Massachusetts has the highest SNAP payment error rate in the region. No bureaucrat cares.

A study released by the Fiscal Alliance Foundation demonstrates that Massachusetts' welfare programs are the "most bloated in the nation...minimal work participation requirements, bloated case-loads, and sky-high expenditures."

According to reports by Medicaid Budget and Expenditure System Financial Management, the increase in welfare enrollment and spending in Massachusetts is caused by "emergency spending on illegal and inadmissible migrants."

No wonder the Governor, the Attorney General and the Legislators oppose an audit, legally passed into law by 72 percent of all the people in all state counties.

It is easy to call our state a Communist state. Beacon Hill voted Karen Spilka, originally from New York, President of the Massachusetts' Senate for Life. Who does that? Let's see. Xi Jinping, President of China for life. Little Rocket Man, president of North Korea, for life. Putin, President of Russia for Life.

Meanwhile, the Communist Squad member from Massachusetts, Representative Ay Caramba Pressley [originally from Illinois], was dirt-poor before she ran for Congress. Just a few years in D.C., and she owns millions of dollars of rental properties on Martha's Vineyard! It's a miracle.

I would vote for a conservative Republican book case if it were on the ballot. It would do less damage than the current Communists on Beacon Hill.

BEV GUDNAOWSKI  
UXBRIDGE

### From the belly of the beast...

To the Editor:

Marjorie Taylor Greene, the *bête noir* of the MAGAverse, has proven, once again, that "even a blind squirrel finds a nut now and then." Who could have envisioned that the same person who claimed there were Jewish space lasers, gazpacho police, and the most bizarre conspiracy theories ever concocted, would suffer a brief encounter with sanity and become an unlikely hero of the Epstein files. And she did it despite threats to her well-being, and that of her son, which *der führer* Trump says they deserve for defying him.

I'm sure this didn't make the cut at Fox Faux Noise, so here is MTG in her own words. (You can find the video source of this transcript at: <https://www.facebook.com/reel/24662310113466543>.)

"When we started talking about the Epstein files, I said 'This is a no-brainer!' President Trump will just roll them out in a big cart himself! Stacks and stacks of the Epstein files, because obviously Bill Clinton is all in there, and Hillary Clinton. That's what I had been told all along, right? Well, it was the most shocking thing when I sat in a conference room meeting, and I learned that the President didn't want to release the Epstein files. I was like...what? Yeah...come to find out, he was very much against it. So we kept on trying and kept on talking about it and the President told Mike Johnson 'No, do not bring that resolution to the floor for a vote. He told the Rules Committee...and Johnson told the Rules Committee 'no you will not mark up any bill that will allow the Epstein files to be released. And the resistance built and built and built. He told Pam Bondi 'don't release the Epstein files.'

"He told everybody 'Don't release the Epstein files.' So we persisted, because that's what we promised. That's what we campaigned on. Transparency and accountability. Especially to pedophiles. How is that complicated? So, it got to be such

a gigantic amount of resistance coming from the President, and the Speaker, and everyone, the DOJ... I said 'fine, I'll do the unthinkable, I'll go over there and I'll sign my name on a discharge petition that all the Democrats are signing their name on. Talk about crossing the aisle! Me, a general in the MAGA Army, crossing over to sign my name with a bunch of Democrats? Yeah, I did. Because women were raped when they were 16 and 14 years old. And he was a convicted pedophile, and we knew there were many with him. So, I signed my name on the discharge petition. Oh, did I get my name on the naughty list then, let me tell you. That became a real issue at the White House.

"Well, I'll never forget it – I was in my office at the Rayburn Building and I get a phone call from the President, and he was at the White House, and he wanted to talk to me about the discharge petition that had my name on it. And he said 'Marjorie... you're going to have to take your name off that discharge petition. We can't let this... this is a hoax...we can't carry this... this is a hoax...it's a Democrat hoax, and we've got to just put this away and stop doing this.' And he said 'My friends are going to get hurt.' He said his friends would get hurt if we released the Epstein files. He said 'Marjorie, these are good people. These are people that you know at Mar-A-Lago, people in Palm Beach...they are going to get hurt by this.' And I said 'Mr. President... people have been hurt! These women have been hurt. I said 'Have you talked to them? I said 'You should talk to them. You should have them into the Oval Office. You have everyone in the Oval Office - you have sports teams, you have world leaders. You have Al Qaeda terrorists that are now leading Syria, you have Mamdani...I mean, you have everyone in the Oval Office. Surely you can have these women who were raped as teenagers. Talk to them! I talk to them

Turn To LETTER page A5

## Which retirement plan is right for your business?



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If you're a local business owner, a workplace retirement plan can be a powerful tool – helping you manage taxes, strengthen employee retention and build personal financial security.

Many in your situation, however, assume retirement plans are complicated or only suitable for large companies. The reality is quite different. Today's retirement plan options encompass businesses of every size, from solo entrepreneurs to companies with dozens of employees.

The key is understanding which plans work best for different kinds of businesses:

Self-employed individuals or businesses without employees. Three commonly used retirement plans:

Simplified employee pension (SEP) plans are relatively straightforward, low-maintenance, lower-cost and flexible on how much you contribute each year.

Owner-only 401(k) plans are ideal if you're willing to accept additional cost and complexity in exchange for benefits like higher contribution limits and borrowing options.

Owneronly defined benefit plans work best for owners with high, steady income who want to maximize their retirement contributions and guaranteed retirement income. These plans come with required annual funding and greater administrative complexity.

Businesses with employees can also consider an SEP plan, although it only allows for employer contributions. Other plan options include:

The SIMPLE IRA (savings incentive match plan for employees) can work well for companies with 100 or fewer employees seeking a low-maintenance option. Employer contributions are required, and it has lower contribution limits compared to other plan types.

Traditional 401(k) plans offer maximum flexibility by allowing both employee salary deferrals and employer contributions that can be adjusted based on business performance. These plans have added costs and administrative responsibilities.

Safe harbor 401(k) plans are ideal if you want to maximize your own retirement contributions without complex testing requirements and you're willing to make required employer contributions.

A cash balance plan is often paired with another plan type, such as a 401(k), to allow greater retirement savings. It works well when you have a smaller company with high-earning employees and consistent cash flow, and you're comfortable making required contributions.

Each plan type involves different eligibility requirements, establishment deadlines, contribution limits, complexity and costs. In determining a workplace retirement plan that's right for your business, you'll want to consider your number of employees, desired contribution levels, comfort with required employer contributions and willingness to handle administrative responsibilities. And, of course, the goals for your business and your own retirement are important criteria.

Fortunately, you don't have to navigate this decision alone. A financial advisor can help you evaluate the trade-offs among different plan types and select the option that best fits your situation. They can explain how various plans work and guide you through the setup process.

Starting a workplace retirement plan is an investment in your future, your business and your employees. With professional guidance, you can find a plan that helps everyone build financial security while positioning your business for continued success.

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

# The sound of a ball game on a spring night

There are certain sounds a town doesn't realize it would miss until they come back again.

Around here, one of those sounds is the crack of a baseball bat on a cool spring evening. Not the roar of a professional stadium, mind you. I mean the smaller sounds. The real sounds. Aluminum bats echoing off a school backstop. Cleats scraping gravel in a parking lot. A coach hollering "Run it out!" while somebody's little brother chases a foul ball toward the concession stand.

You hear it drifting through town this time of year. Through open pickup truck windows. Across the pond at dusk. Sometimes while standing in line at the hardware store, you suddenly realize you can hear a game going on somewhere nearby.

## LANTERNS ALONG MAIN STREET

By CHARLES

And for a moment, the whole town feels exactly the way it's supposed to feel.

I drove past one of the local fields the other evening after supper. I wasn't headed there. I had no grandson playing, no reason to stop, and my knees certainly weren't volunteering to sit on aluminum bleachers for two hours. But the parking lot was full, the lights were on, and there was something about it that pulled me in.

So I parked. I sat there in the truck for a while with the windows cracked, listening.

A boy struck out and slammed his helmet down harder than necessary. A girl in the outfield was picking dandelions between innings. Somebody burned popcorn in the snack shack. Two older fellows near the fence were discussing the Red Sox as if the front office

might call them for advice at any moment.

It was perfect. You know, when people talk about small-town New England life, they usually mention the postcard things. Church steeples. White fences. Covered bridges. Fall leaves.

But they forget these spring nights at the ball field.

That's where communities really happen.

You see grandparents who haven't missed a season in twenty years. You see exhausted parents still wearing work boots, arriving just in time for the third inning. You see kids learning difficult lessons about teamwork, patience, embarrassment, effort, and occasionally what happens when you forget there's a runner on second base.

Nobody remembers the score ten years later.

But they remember who showed up.

I remember my father

standing along a chain-link fence with his arms folded, saying almost nothing during games. That was his generation. Men didn't chatter encouragement every thirty seconds back then. You knew they were proud because they came. Because they stood there after a ten-hour workday instead of heading home to rest.

Every once in a while, after a decent play, he'd clear his throat and say, "Not bad."

From him, that was practically a parade.

I didn't appreciate those evenings enough at the time. Most kids don't. You think life will always include grass stains and orange slices and the sound of somebody dragging the infield after sunset.

Then one day you realize decades have passed, and suddenly you'd give quite a lot to stand near that fence again.

These days, life moves faster than it ought to.

Everybody's rushing somewhere. Phones buzz through dinner. Half the country seems angry all the time. Folks wear earbuds walking down Main Street now, which still strikes me as a funny way to avoid hearing the world.

But at a local ball field, for an hour or two, things slow down again.

Neighbors talk.

Kids laugh.

Teenagers who act too cool for everything suddenly become ten feet tall after catching a fly ball.

And old men like me sit quietly in pickup trucks pretending we only stopped for a minute.

The best part may be that these evenings cost almost nothing. A couple dollars for a hot dog. Maybe another for a soda if you're feeling reckless. No fancy tickets. No valet parking. No giant video board demanding applause.

Just people gathering because spring finally

returned to Massachusetts and somebody chalked the baselines again.

I think towns need traditions like that more than ever.

Not grand traditions. Not expensive ones.

Simple ones.

The kind that remind people they belong to one another.

By the time I finally drove home that night, the field lights had gone dark except for one near the parking lot. A few players were still fooling around by the dugout while parents folded chairs into car trunks.

And for a second, the place looked exactly the same as it probably did 30 years ago.

Maybe even 50.

That's comforting these days.

There aren't many things left in life that still sound the same after all that time.

But on a spring night in Massachusetts, the sound of a baseball game still does.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### LETTER

continued from page A4

all the time. As a matter of fact, many of them voted for you. That's what I told him...they voted for you. Epstein victims voted for Donald Trump.

"And he wouldn't have anything to do with them. And he told me his friends would get hurt. And I said 'I'm not taking my name off the discharge petition.' Because this crosses party lines. In fact, it crosses all the lines. When it comes down to victimizing some of the most innocent people in America. These young girls were teenagers that desperately wanted to be models one day. They wanted to be seen as beautiful. They wanted to be rich. They wanted to be famous. Of course, every teenager wants things like that. And they were victimized by Ghislaine Maxwell and others. And they were victimized by the richest, most powerful men, not only in our country, but the world. And they were used by Jeffrey Epstein as sexual tools for his own satisfaction, and his friends satisfaction. To actually be asked by the President of the United States to back off and not help these women...

that's when MAGA died. That's when the entire thing shattered for me."

Marjorie Taylor Greene will never be confused with Adam Kinzinger or Liz Cheney, but she has drawn her moral line in the sand. It's obvious that Bondi and Blanche told Trump he is implicated in the files. As for Trump worrying about his 'friends', he doesn't have a friend in the world. The only person Trump cares about protecting is Donald J. Trump, despite Bev telling us how "Trump is for us!" He deals with everyone else on a transactional basis. But he obviously considers child rapists as "good people," so there's that.

If this really was a Democrat 'hoax,' Trump would be - as MTG stated - "rolling the files out in a big cart himself!" Maxwell was convicted of procuring up to a thousand young girls for Epstein, but he didn't rape them all himself. So who are the others that participated? Not one person in this country has been charged. Were they all foreigners like Prince Andrew? Not a chance. Congressional Republicans are openly complicit in this coverup. Only four out of 217 of them signed the discharge petition. The party of 'family values' doesn't care about children - Democrat or Republican - they just cut health care (the ACA), food programs (SNAP), and froze roughly \$10 billion in funding for social services, childcare and cash aid. They are okay with children being raped, as long as they get to keep their jobs in Congress by bowing the knee to Trump.

This scandal is a test of our legal system. But more so, it's a test of our national morality - who we are as a country. Do we allow the rich and powerful to do whatever they please, no matter how perverse or criminal? The corrupted DOJ is supposed to defend we-the-people, not Donald Trump and the 1 percent. Todd Blanche, in a Trumpean-scale lie, recently said, "If there was any criminality evidenced in the files, we would have charged those involved!" If there is "nothing to see here," why haven't all the files and videos been released as ordered by a judge? Why all the redactions (but not of the victims'

identities!), and why is Trump so worried?

Where are all the "Christian values" and 'law and order' Republican voters? Where are the "God-fearing, bible-spouting, radical Christians" like Bev and Phyllis? How do you continue to support this administration? How do you face your own daughters? Oh, I keep forgetting...it's the immigrants!

Breaking news! Congressional Republicans are now planning to allocate \$1 billion for Trump's ballroom/bunker! Yes, the one Trump initially said would cost \$200 million and be funded by private donations. Seems our government is afloat with spare change! Except when we-the-people need it. Keep voting Republican! Stupid is as stupid does.

RICK BEVILACQUA  
WHITINSVILLE

## Is our money "too MAGA for Massachusetts?"

To the Editor:

According to Steve Kerrigan, Chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party, the voters here already know who is "... too MAGA for Massachusetts." With the ridiculously biased fools at WCBV quite knowingly bestowing their de facto endorsement of Gov. Healey and Lt. Gov. Driscoll in that alleged "news" report of theirs on the outcome of the Republican State Convention in Worcester.

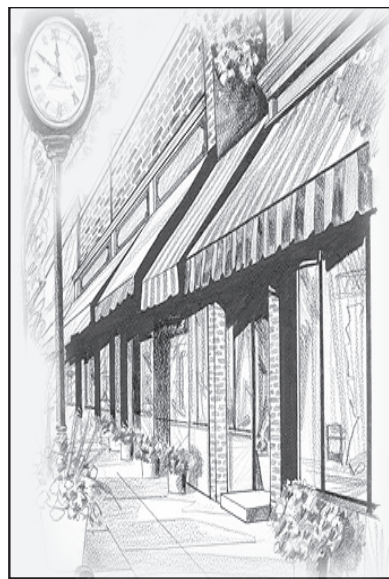
So, are all the tax dollars paid in by the Make America Great Again folks "too MAGA" for those Democratic Party knuckleheads?

What about all the day-to-day cash that the MAGA spend in our state's retail and business establishments... are those dollars too MAGA for Massachusetts as well?

STEPHEN GAMBONE  
NORTHBRIDGE

### 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.



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## Blackstone Valley Tech to host Annual Golf Tourney June 8 & 9

UPTON — You'll want to mark your calendar for BVT's 27th Annual Golf Tournament, taking place on Monday, June 8, and Tuesday, June 9, at Highfields Golf & Country Club in Grafton. Hit the links, show off your skills, and help raise funds for a great cause benefiting the Valley Tech Education Foundation and Athletic Department programs.

Registration is available for individual golfers (\$150) or foursomes (\$600), and includes 18 holes on the championship course, a golf cart, and a buffet dinner. Participants can also enjoy a silent auction and raffles, all in support of this meaningful cause.

Not a golfer? You can still get involved by sponsoring a tee, putting green, or golf cart—an excellent opportunity to showcase your company name in the event program and during the event.

Whether you join for one day or both, this event promises fun, friendly competition, and community spirit. For full tournament details, sponsorship opportunities, raffle donations, or to register and pay online, visit: [www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/golftournament](http://www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/golftournament).

Be sure to register by the May 21 deadline to secure your spot.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Millford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.

## Blackstone Valley Chamber welcomes "Main Street Matters Tour" to support Local businesses

WHITINSVILLE — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) is excited to welcome the Main Street Matters Tour, to support local Blackstone Valley businesses. This event will take place on Thursday, May 28 from 8:30-10 a.m. at the BVCC Offices, located at 670 Linwood Ave., Suite 5, Whitinsville. This event is free and open to all local business owners and professionals.

Main Street Matters Tour is a statewide initiative designed to bring small business owners together for meaningful conversation, collaboration, and insight into the issues impacting local communities. Presented by National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), Retailers Association of Massachusetts (RAM), and The Massachusetts Restaurant Association (The MRA), this event provides an opportunity for attendees to engage directly with fellow business leaders, share challenges, and gain a deeper understanding of current legislative and economic issues facing small businesses across the Commonwealth. Attendees will have the opportunity to discuss key topics including rising energy costs, health insurance premiums, Massachusetts tax rankings, labor mandates, and unemployment insurance concerns.

The BVCC is also proud to partner with the Webster Dudley Oxford Chamber of Commerce to bring this important conversation to our business communities.

"This unique opportunity for business owners to come together, have their voices heard, and stay informed about the issues shaping our local and state business environment," said BVCC Executive Director, Liz O'Neil.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to pre-register in advance by visiting [www.blackstonevalley.org/](http://www.blackstonevalley.org/) events.

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

## Blackstone Complex announces recreational hike schedule in May

REGION — All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Appropriate for ages 12 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. Bathrooms and water are not available unless otherwise stated. Bringing bug spray is encouraged. Programming is subject to change or cancellation. For the most up to date programming information, call (508) 278-7604 or visit [bit.ly/blstupdates](http://bit.ly/blstupdates).

Reasonable accommodations available upon advance notice. To make a request, please contact Moneesha Dasgupta at (617) 645-0358 or [moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov](mailto:moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov)

**Healthy Heart Loop**  
Upton State Forest  
Sunday, May 10, 2 - 4 p.m.  
Meet at the CCC camp parking area ([bit.ly/uptnccc](http://bit.ly/uptnccc)). This hike is roughly three miles over loose gravel surface with moderate inclines. Bathrooms available.

**Three Quarts Hike**  
Douglas State Forest  
Sunday, May 17, 2 - 4 p.m.  
Meet at the Bill Anesse Trailhead parking area ([bit.ly/billanese](http://bit.ly/billanese)). This hike is roughly four miles over a rocky and rugged forest surface with moderate inclines.

**Whitehall Reservoir Loop**  
Whitehall State Park  
Sunday, May 24, 1 - 4 p.m.  
Meet at the Highland Street parking area (300 Wood Street, Hopkinton). This hike is roughly five miles over rugged forest surface and loose gravel surfaces with steep inclines.

**Wolf Hill Loop**  
Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park  
Sunday, May 31, 2 - 4 p.m.  
Meet at the Rice City Pond parking area ([bit.ly/ricecity-pond](http://bit.ly/ricecity-pond)). This hike is roughly three and a half miles over a rugged forest surface with steep inclines.

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# Spring

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366 E. Main Street, Rte. 9, East Brookfield

**LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES**

**BROOKFIELD**  
 Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry  
 St. Mary's Church  
 4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506  
 Distribution: Wednesday 9:30 AM-11 AM:  
 Saturday 9:30 AM-11AM

**CHARLTON**  
 Chip - In Food Pantry  
 McKinstry Building  
 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507  
 Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

St. Joseph's Church, Charlton  
 Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday 9-11 a.m.  
 Everyone is welcome.

**LEICESTER**  
 Leicester Food Pantry  
 St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish  
 759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524  
 Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
 St. Joseph's Food Pantry  
 Located in the church hall at 296 North  
 Main St. North Brookfield  
 Distribution is the 1st Thursday of the  
 month from 5:00-6:30PM  
 the 3rd Thursday of the month from 12  
 Noon-1:15PM  
 Any questions should be directed to the  
 Rectory office 508 867-6469.  
 St. Joseph's Food Pantry is a community  
 partner affiliated with the Worcester County  
 Food Bank.

**OXFORD**  
 Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf  
 Oxford Community Center  
 4 Maple Road  
 Oxford, MA 01540  
 Distribution: Thursday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

**ROCHDALE**  
 The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry  
 Greenville Baptist Church  
 674 Pleasant St.  
 Rochdale, MA  
 Distribution: Every Monday from 12:00 -  
 2:00 p.m. Open to everyone.

**SOUTHBRIDGE**  
 St. John Paul II Parish Food Pantry  
 279 Hamilton St., Southbridge  
 Tuesday 3-5 p.m., Wednesday 9-11 a.m.  
 (508) 765-0245

Southbridge Food Share  
 Located at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church,  
 lower level  
 446 Hamilton St,  
 Southbridge, MA 01550  
 Email:  
 Southbridgefoodshare.org@gmail.com  
 Phone: 508-764-6583  
 Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday,  
 from 10:00 am to 11:15 am.

**SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD -  
 RESIDENTS ONLY**  
 Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry  
 60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562  
 Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

**STURBRIDGE**  
 Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry,  
 Located in the St. Anne Church basement,  
 16 Church Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518  
 Stocked by donations  
 Contact: 508-347-6398

**UXBRIDGE**  
 Fellowship Church in Uxbridge.  
 All are Welcome!  
 Manna Food Pantry  
 Open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.  
 6 to 8 pm (Doors open at 5:45)  
 Located on the lower level, right-hand side  
 of the building.  
 647 Douglas St., Uxbridge, MA

**WEBSTER**  
 Webster-Dudley Food Share  
 4 Church St #2  
 Webster, MA 0570  
 Distribution: Tuesday and Thursday from  
 8:30 -11:00 am. Open to Webster and  
 Dudley residents.  
 Please call ahead: 508-943-9171

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
 Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry  
 First Congregational Church  
 36 North Main Street,  
 W.Bookfield, MA 01585  
 Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM  
 Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



# Annual St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive set for May 30

UXBRIDGE — The St. Vincent de Paul Annual Clothing Drive at St. Mary Church in Uxbridge will be held on Saturday, May 30 from 9 a.m. to noon in the church parking lot (77 Mendon St.).

We accept all worn, stained, but clean clothing and textiles to be recycled at all times in our bins. Proceeds from recycling the fabrics are returned to our conference to help meet local needs.

Only on the day of the drive, if you wish to donate new/gently used infant and children's clothing, or clothes that could benefit our veterans, please keep those items separate and our members will distribute them directly to those in need.

If you have other good/usable clothing that you would like to be repurposed rather than recycled, the following local agencies accept clothing to families and individuals in this area. We partner closely with these agencies.

Hope's Thrift Closet, Whitinsville (www.bvemergencyshester.org/hope-s-thrift-closet)

The Blessing Barn in Mendon (www.theblessingbarn.com) or Catholic Charities in Milford (www.ccworc.org).

Currently, our Diocesan SVDP conference does not have a store to accept clothing donations. We will announce when a new SVDP store opens in our area. On behalf of our friends in need, we are extremely grateful for your continued, generous support! God Bless!



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---------------------------------------	--

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**Saturday: May 16th**  
**TAG SALE 9 -4**  
**Collectibles, old**  
**books, vinyl, glass,**  
**furniture etc.**  
**Pre-estate sale.**  
**16 Pleasant St.**  
**West Brookfield,**  
**MA.**  
**No early birds.**

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 273**

## YARD SALE

SATURDAY, MAY 23RD

Universal Tag Parking Lot,  
36 Hall Road, Dudley

Early Birds (8am to 9am) • \$10.00 per person fee  
**9am until 3pm FREE**  
 24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items **ONE DAY ONLY**  
*Pick your items and Make an offer!*  
 CREDIT CARD ACCEPTED!

Grouped Items: **Electronics** - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TV's) **Tools** - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. **Furniture** - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. **Housewares** - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances **Sporting goods** - Bikes, skies, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment **Clothes** - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags **Kids toys and baby items** - high chairs, bouncy, games, **Antiques**

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 Phone:(774)200-7308

Help Wanted

## DOUGLAS ADULT SOCIAL CENTER

331 Main St.  
(508) 476-2283  
Hours of operation:  
Monday through Thursday,  
9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9  
a.m.-noon

**DAILY ACTIVITIES:**  
All our daily activities are  
free of charge.

Monday: Painting  
class 9:45am to 11:45am,  
Balance & Strength  
Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga  
2pm

Tuesday: Walking club  
9am, Cribbage 9:00am,  
Lunch & Bingo 11:30am,  
Technology class 1pm (call  
to make an appt.), Line  
dancing 2pm

Wednesday: Balance  
& strength 10am, Darts  
11:30am, Mahjong  
12:45pm, Dominoes 1 to  
2:30pm

Thursday: Walking club  
9am, Pitch 9:00am, Chair  
Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi  
10:45am, Hand and Foot  
card game 12:30pm

Friday: Balance &  
strength 10am, Zumba  
11:30am

Tuesday & Thursday  
lunch club, please call the  
Friday before to sign up.  
Lunch is \$4.00 per per-  
son. If you would like to  
attend we offer free rides to  
and from the center and are  
willing to waive the lunch  
fee is necessary.

May Lunch Menu:  
Tuesday 5/5: BBQ  
chicken, sweet potato, corn  
& pudding

Thursday 5/12: Tomato  
soup, grilled cheese & fruit  
Tuesday 5/14: American  
chop suey, salad, garlic  
bread & ice cream

Thursday 5/19: Baked  
potato bar & cupcakes

Tuesday 5/26: Sweet &  
sour chicken, rice, carrots  
& cookies

Friday Shopping  
Schedule: Please call 48  
hours in advance to sched-  
ule your ride. Grocery  
shopping pick up starts at  
9:30.

Hannaford: 5/22  
Walmart: 5/15  
Price Chopper: 5/8  
Rider's choice: 5/29

**MAY EVENTS:** The  
center will be closed on  
Monday May 25th, in  
observance of Memorial  
Day.

**NEW CLASS**  
STARTING IN MAY...Tai  
Chi May 14th @ 10:45 to  
11:30. This class will run  
every Thursday.

**WELLNESS CLINIC**  
DATES: Monday May  
4th & Tuesday May 19th.  
Clinic is open from 10 am  
to 12 pm.

Friday May 15th 9:00  
to 10:30: Interested in  
learning how to play Mah  
Jongg? Learn from expe-  
rienced players! This is the  
American version of the  
game.

Thursday May 21st:  
Sunshine Club trip,  
WooSox Game has tickets  
left to purchase. Please stop  
in the center to sign up and  
reserve your ticket today.  
First pitch is 11:05. The  
Road Runner will be avail-  
able for rides. When you  
purchase your ticket please  
schedule your ride.

PLEASE CALL (508)  
476-2283 TO SIGN UP  
FOR PROGRAMS &  
CLASSES

Check our website for  
events that may not be list-  
ed here

<https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

# Land protection information offered to Douglas landowners

DOUGLAS — The Douglas Open Space Committee invites Douglas landowners to attend an informational session on how to protect their fields and forests. The event will be held on Thursday, May 14 at 7 p.m. at the Douglas Municipal Center at 29 Depot St. in the Resource Room. A MassWoods land preservation webinar will be shown and Lisa Mosczynski, President of the area's regional

Metacomet Land Trust, will provide addition-  
al information and answer questions.

Excellent permanent protection is available to landowners and can offer property tax reduction or elimination, be tailored to specific needs such as including a building envelope for future generations and offer peace of mind for estate planning. Permanent protec-

tion also has great public benefits including watershed protection, habitat preservation for flora and fauna and permanent protection for our farmland through agricultural preservation restrictions.

Come find out more! For more information, email [openspace@douglas-ma.gov](mailto:openspace@douglas-ma.gov).

## Special events this month at Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park

UXBRIDGE — All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather. Programs meet in the River Bend Farm Visitor Center unless otherwise stated. Bringing bug spray is encouraged. Programming is subject to change or cancellation. For

the most up to date programming information, call (508) 278-7604 or visit [bit.ly/blstupdates](http://bit.ly/blstupdates).

Reasonable accommodations available upon advance notice. To make a request, please contact Moneesha Dasgupta at (617) 645-0358 or [moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov](mailto:moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov).

Blackstone River and Canal

Heritage State Park is located at 287 Oak St., Uxbridge.

Family Fun Fishing Day  
Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, May 17)  
Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park  
Join us for the 11th annual Family Fun Fishing Day! Enjoy a free fun-filled day of fishing, fami-

ly, and friends! Rods, bait, and instructions are available with pre-registration. Prizes will be awarded. Face painting, activities, and more! Pre-register at [www.openskycs.org/fishingday2026](http://www.openskycs.org/fishingday2026). Appropriate for all ages and abilities.

## PLUMMER PLACE

Home of the Northbridge Senior Center

The following events will take place at Plummer Place, Home of the Northbridge Senior Center. We are located at 20 Highland St. in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508) 234-2002. Northbridge residents have priority for all programming and events. Please call the main office to sign up for special events and programs, so we can plan accordingly.

**Medical Drivers**

We are in need of medical drivers for out-of-town medical appointments. This is a very important service that we provide for seniors who cannot drive themselves to their medical appointments. If you are interested and can spare any time, it would be most appreciated. Drivers are reimbursed for their mileage. For more information, please call the main office.

**Regular Programs:**

Meditation with Kelly  
Every Thursday morning at 9:30am  
Bereavement Group:  
2nd Monday at 1:00pm  
Book Club:  
3rd Wednesday at 10:30am  
Please call Kelly to find out what book we are reading.

**Brew Crew:**

First Wednesday at 9:30am  
Wednesday, June 3rd  
Guest Speaker ~ Adam Gaudette,  
Northbridge Town Manager  
Dull Men's Club:  
4th Tuesday at 9:30am  
Tuesday, May 26th  
Guest Speaker ~ Mark Dermugrditchian,  
Armenian-American author, musician, motor-  
cycle enthusiast and longtime Massachusetts  
resident.

**Scrabble:**

First and Third Mondays at 9:30am  
Women's Collective:  
2nd Thursday at 10:00am  
Please call Amy for more information.

**Writing Your Way**

2nd and 4th Thursdays at 2:00pm  
Please call Lori for more information.

**Special Events and Programs:**

Tuesday, May 19th  
11am - 12pm

Radio Turns 100 ~ "The Sound That Shaped Our Lives"

From crackling early broadcasts to the voices Boston grew up with, this program brings a full century of radio to life! Join us for an engaging journey through time. This program is designed to entertain, inform, and stir memories with Mike Morin, presenter and a crowd favorite at Plummer Place.

Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, May 20th

1pm-2pm  
Confidence, Caution and Control ~ Three  
Keys to Staying Steady on Your Feet

Join us for an informative discussion about easy, practical ways to reduce your risk of falls and stay active and independent at home. This program will be led by a nurse, physical therapist, and an occupational therapist who will share helpful insights about how vision, memory, home environment, medication, strength and balance can all affect fall risk. Together, we will explore simple strategies that can help you stay safer and more confident in your daily activities. We will also discuss how small changes can make a big difference in preventing future falls. Sponsored and presented by our friends at Seraphic Springs Health Care. Sign up in the main office.

Thursday, May 21st

1:30pm -2:30pm  
Jimmy "Rag Tag" O'Neil Concert  
Oldies, Sing-a-Long, & Fun!

When "Jimmy Rag Tag" is in the house, it's like turning on a vintage broadcast set and letting the past play through the speakers. The songs everybody knows bring back fond memories. It is amazing how everyone remembers the words to the songs we all grew up with and love. Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, May 27th

1pm -2pm  
The Art of Cats  
Cats have long captivated us, going beyond their role as mere pets to become powerful symbols and icons in art, literature, and more. From ancient civilizations to modern society, the allure of cats has left a mark on our culture, inspiring countless works of creativity and fascination. Do you have a story to tell about a cat? We hope you can join us for this wonderful program. Sign up in the main office.

The Plummer Place Pluckers

Concert and Sing-A-Long

Wednesday, June 3rd  
1pm-2pm

Come travel back in time with Plummer Place Pluckers on a musical journey through the past. This sing-a-long concert will feature a wonderful collection of favorites that might take you all the way back to your elementary school days!! Bring your singing voices. This group loves audience participation! Sign up in the main office.

Favorite Songs, Familiar Faces: An  
Afternoon with Mark and Raienne  
Thursday, June 4th  
1pm-2pm

Mark and Raienne are a married couple who entertain with unmistakable vocal harmonies, poetic lyrics and down-to-earth personae. These musically talented artists have contributed over seventeen albums within their first decade and toured consistently throughout the US and Canada. These artists blend distinctive voices with rich tantalizing harmonies and a wide range of accompaniment (guitar, mandolin, banjo, harmonica, ukulele, clarinet and penny whistle) featuring original and traditional acoustic Folk/Americana songwriting. Their live performances are both musically captivating and spiritually uplifting as audiences are carefully balanced between serious songs and humorous commentary. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency. Sign up in the main office.

Strawberry Festival ~ Wednesday, June  
10th 1pm-2pm

From Seedling to Sweetness — The Story of  
Our Strawberries

Join us as we hear from Ken Foppema of Foppema's Farm, a family-owned and operated farm in the Blackstone Valley! Since 1983, the Foppema family has been cultivating fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables — starting with strawberries in mid-June and extending through a diverse harvest of berries, sweet corn, tomatoes, apples and more — all grown on their 75-acre farm and sold directly at their farmstand. Wednesday, June 10th from 1pm-2pm.

Light "themed" refreshments and free raffle!  
Admission is \$5 cash payable at the door on the day of the event.

Sign up in the main office. Northbridge  
Residents have priority



StonebridgePress.com

# News, really close to home

**MEDALS**

continued from page A1

Atlanta this June, where they will compete against top students nationwide. A complete list of medalists is available at [www.valley-tech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa](http://www.valley-tech.k12.ma.us/skillsusa).

The BVT students who earned medals at the State Leadership & Skills Conference are listed by hometown:

**BELLINGHAM**

Gold: Olivia Dalton, Biotechnology Bowl.

**BLACKSTONE**

Gold: Hunter Savard and James Thibault, Additive Manufacturing. Silver: Ella Ruth, Welding.

**DOUGLAS**

Gold: Devin Drumheller,

Mechatronics.

Silver: Celina Culter, Health Knowledge Bowl; Hannah Gosselin and Makenzie Johnson, Career Pathways/Showcase Arts; Brady Morris, Additive Manufacturing; and Ryley Paterson, Engineering Technology.

**GRAFTON**

Gold: Caroline Brown, Advertising Design; Robert Lazo, Mechatronics; and Evan St. George, Biotechnology Bowl.

Silver: Luke Keenan, Health Knowledge Bowl; Karolina Malkowski, Medical Math, Cooper Often, Mechatronics; and Miya Vaillancourt, Nail Care.

**HOPEDALE**

Gold: Ella Foster, Career Pathways

Showcase Engineering.

Silver: Hayden Tobin, Career Pathways/Showcase Arts. Bronze: Joe Bach and Ryan McGovern, Television Production.

**MENDON**

Silver: Nathan Lucey, HVAC/R; and Payton Smith, Engineering Technology.

Bronze: Benjamin Collins, Telecommunications Cabling.

**MILFORD**

Gold: Ethan Dahmer, Biotechnology Bowl; Emily Kee, Health Occupations/Professional Portfolio; and Dominic Quintino, Cyber Security. Silver: Julien Awuku-Asante, Electronics Technology; and Olivia

Guido, Painting & Design Technology.

**MILLVILLE**

Silver: Lara Liedtke, Safety Poster Design.

**MILLBURY**

Gold: Allison Garden, Career Pathways/Showcase Engineering; and Jonathan Tremblay, Diesel Equipment Technology.

**NORTHBRIDGE**

Gold: Tarek Bensellam, Cyber Security; Autumn Gromelski, Restaurant Service; and Michael Reeves-Hall, State T-Shirt Design.

Silver: Bella Baltramaitis, Engineering Technology; Liliana Carpenter, Restaurant Service; and Elsa Richards,

Health Knowledge Bowl.

**SUTTON**

Silver: Ashley Levins, Nail Care Model.

**UPTON**

State Officer Elect: Madison Denise.

Silver: Justin Fransen, Mechatronics; Jacob Poirier, Additive Manufacturing; and Makenna Walls, Health Knowledge Bowl.

**UXBRIDGE**

Gold: Gabrielle Gannon, Career Pathways Showcase/Engineering; Lucas Jastremski, Biotechnology Bowl, and Julie Lafontaine, Painting & Design Technology.

Silver: Taylor Jansen, Safety Poster Design.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.



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# LEGALS

**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. WO26P1391EA**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE**  
**PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Estate Of:  
**William M. Campbell**  
**Date of Death: March 02, 2026**  
 To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kathleen A. Campbell of Douglas MA**  
**Kathleen A. Campbell of Douglas MA** has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
 May 15, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO26P1521EA**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

Estate Of:  
**David M Lynch**  
**Date of Death: 12/24/2025** To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **James M Lynch of Uxbridge MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

**James M Lynch of Uxbridge MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the estate 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 06/02/2026**.

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

**WITNESS, Hon. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.**

Date: May 07, 2026

Stephanie Fattman,

Register of Probate

May 15, 2026

**(SEAL)**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT**  
 TO:  
**Matthew T. Curtis Suzanne L. Curtis**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

Docket No. 26 SM 001388 and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

**U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in

**Douglas, numbered 71 Locust Street, given by Matthew T. Curtis and Suzanne L. Curtis to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Omega Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns, dated December 8, 2009, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 45227, Page 77, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated February 17, 2013, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 51120, Page 81, and further affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated December 3, 2015, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 54867, Page 305, and further affected by an Assumption Agreement dated August 9, 2019, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61072, Page 290, and further affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated August 22, 2019, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61072, Page 295, and further affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated September 23, 2020, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 63453, Page 192, 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 wrgrg/cf?lfrance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 6/15/2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

4/28/2026  
 Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 04/28/2026  
 Attest:

**Deborah J. Patterson**  
**Recorder**  
 May 15, 2026

**(SEAL)**  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
**26 SM 001449**  
**ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:  
 Kenneth R. Rusakovich and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq):  
 loanDepot.com, LLC

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Whitinsville (Northbridge), numbered 56 Driscolls Lane a/k/a 56 Driscoll's Lane, given by Kenneth R. Rusakovich to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for loanDepot.com, LLC, dated February 14, 2024, and recorded at Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 70208, Page 79, 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 June 15, 2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on May 1, 2026.

Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

May 15, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**Docket No. W025P3622GD**  
**NOTICE AND ORDER:**  
**Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor**  
 In the interests of  
**Bryson H. Barber**  
**of Uxbridge, MA**  
**Minor**

**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**1. Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of

a Minor filed by on 10/17/2025 by Jason C. Salvucci of East Falmouth, MA will be held 09/23/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**

**2. Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

**3. Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

**4. Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

**5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

**ORDER TO PETITIONER(S)**  
**IT IS ORDERED THAT** copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served in hand on the minor, (if 14 or more years of age and not the petitioner), the guardian, the parents of the minor, and any other person if ordered by the Court, at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date listed above. **Service must be made by the sheriff, constable, or other person approved by the Court.**

If service in hand cannot be accomplished on any interested party. **IT IS ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on the interested party by leaving at and mailing by regular first class mail to last and usual place of residence of the interested party at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the date of hearing listed above.

If the identity of whereabouts of an interested party is **not known, IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on all interested persons at least **fourteen (14) days** prior to the hearing date by publishing a copy of the Order and Notice once in **Webster Times, Webster** publication to be at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing date.

If required, service on the United States Veteran Administration and the Department of Children and Families may be accomplished by regular first class mail at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing.

**THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE:** An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.

Date: April 24, 2026

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

May 15, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**Docket No. W025P3621GD**  
**NOTICE AND ORDER:**  
**Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor**  
 In the interests of  
**Maia H Salvucci**  
**of Uxbridge, MA**  
**Minor**  
**NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**1. Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed by on 10/17/2025 by Jason C. Salvucci of East Falmouth, MA will be held 09/23/2026 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing Located **Worcester Probate & Family Court**

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Date: April 24, 2026

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

May 15, 2026

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO26P1458EA**  
**INFORMAL PROBATE**  
**PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Estate Of:  
**Ray Carson Paul**  
**Also Known As: Ray C. Paul**  
**Date of Death: March 08, 2026**

To All persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **David Wayne Paul of Upton MA**

Petitioner **Julie Paul Brown of Hopkinton MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Petitioner **David Wayne Paul of Upton MA**

Petitioner **Julie Paul Brown of Hopkinton MA** has been informally appointed as Personal Representative of said estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

May 15, 2026

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**Thompson ~ 6 Lillian Ave  
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Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access. List Price: \$615,000



**Featured Listing ~ New To Market!  
Webster ~ 33 Slater Street**

Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors. \$525,000



**Featured New Listing  
Webster - 34 Eastern Ave Condos  
~ Unit M ~ Move In Ready!**

Original Owner, 1st Time Offered, Well-Kept, 2-BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 1,500+ SF, LL Living Potential, Private Deck, 20-Unit Complex, Desirable Setting, 1395 in mins. List Price: \$310,000



**Webster - 24 Cooper Rd  
New Construction - Craftsman Style home**

Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage \$649,900.00



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**Webster Lake -  
302 Killdeer Island**



Lakefront home w/1,700+/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Full baths. Lower level family room w/ walkout to water. \$775,000

**Webster Lake Waterfront -  
31 Bayview!!**



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TEA

continued from page A1

tional presentation that was enjoyed by all in attendance!

Attendees enjoyed a delicious assortment of treats, pastries, fresh fruit, and an array of sweet desserts, all served alongside freshly brewed tea courtesy of Atria Draper Place.

Adding to the excitement of the afternoon was a special raffle basket awarded to one lucky winner, courtesy of Hawk Hill Orchards. The beautifully assembled basket featured homemade treats, mugs, honey spoons, apple butter, apple cake, and many other orchard-inspired goodies that delighted the winner and added an extra touch of fun to the celebration.

The Mother's Day Tea highlighted not only the joy of the holiday, but also the importance of community connection and shared experiences for local seniors. The Northbridge Senior Center extends a heartfelt thanks to its generous sponsors whose support helped make the afternoon possible: the Northbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, Atria Draper Place, Hawk Hill Orchards, Unibank, and the Friends of Northbridge Elders (FINE). For more information about upcoming programs at Plummer Place, please contact Amy Cowen, program and volunteer coordinator at (508) 234-2002.



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