

Auburn News

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Friday, May 15, 2026

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POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

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RE-ELECT John Eul Selectman

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

My name is John Eul, and I currently serve as Chair of the Oxford Board of Selectmen. I recently celebrated my 80th birthday, and after a ten-year struggle, I'm grateful to say I am finally cancer-free. My family continues to ask me, "Why are you running again?" and all I can say is this: because I care about all of us-not just some of us. The last few months have been challenging for our community, and my daily role has been to listen, guide, and support our departments, committees, and boards as they worked together to produce a balanced budgetone that provided each department with what it needed, even if not everything they wanted. During this time, I also had to make difficult decisions, including appointing an interim police chief and an interim town manager, while securing search consultants, developing the search criteria, and working closely with them throughout the process. I am thankful to the full Board of Selectmen for their collaboration, guidance, and support throughout this demanding period.

I am asking for your vote so I can continue doing the steady, practical work with integrity, thoughtfulness and professionalism this town deserves: keeping our finances responsible, supporting public safety and town services, and helping Oxford move forward with leadership that is compassionate, transparent and accountable.

**Move Oxford Forward - through people, not politics.
Choose hope, not hate.**

VOTE JOHN EUL



★ Please vote on May 19th ★

PAID FOR BY JOHN EUL FOR SELECTMEN COMMITTEE



Courtesy

On Saturday, May 2, representatives from the Town of Dudley government and the Veterans' Services District of Webster and Dudley participated in the annual Little League Parade. The Little Leaguers were escorted onto the ballfield, where they were welcomed by parents and friends eager for the first game of the season. Despite the rain, the parade continued as planned. This day was especially meaningful for veterans, as it marked the start of Memorial Day events throughout May. This is the busiest month for the veteran community, with many activities. However, Memorial Day is not a "happy holiday," but a time to remember those military personnel who never returned home. It is observed as a somber occasion.

Webster to honor fallen service members with Memorial Day Parade

WEBSTER — The town of Webster will mark Memorial Day with its annual parade and remembrance exercises on Monday, May 25, bringing together veterans' organizations, students, civic leaders, churches, scouts, emergency personnel and community groups in a solemn tribute to those who gave their lives in military service.

Organizers are reminding participants and spectators alike that Memorial Day is intended as "a solemn day of commemoration" honoring service members who made "the Supreme Sacrifice defending the freedoms that we all enjoy."

Organizations, marching units and bands are asked to assemble near Zmetra's Memorials at the intersection of Route 12 and Worcester Road beginning at 10 a.m. Parade marshals will coordinate the order of march before the procession steps off promptly at 11 a.m.

The parade will form near the entrance to St. Anthony Turn To PARADE page A9

Dudley selectmen add override question to June 15 ballot

DUDLEY — At the June 15 town election, voters will be asked whether town officials may override the levy limits of Proposition 2 1/2 and assess an additional \$1,985,187 in property taxes to support, in part, town services, public safety and public education in FY2027.

The Board of Selectmen have set public information meetings for 6:30 p.m.

May 21 and June 2 on the third floor of the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main St.

The Board of Selectmen and finance committee voted to put the override question before voters after lengthy deliberations during a joint meeting on May 4.

Town Account Sarah Mongeau reported that the town's discretionary spending today is at 2024 levels.

"There's nothing left to cut. We keep cutting and at some point, we just can't run that way," she said, adding, "There's no fat in town hall; there's no fat in departments."

Finance committee member Robin Watson said she supported the override.

"I think the budgets that were requested over the past few months were as lean as

Turn To BALLOT page A9

Oxford High School honors Mark Giles

OXFORD — At a heartfelt ceremony at Oxford High School, family, friends, staff, and community members gathered to dedicate a memorial plaque in honor of beloved custodian Mark Giles, who passed away this past summer. The plaque, placed beside the school's flagpole, serves as a lasting tribute to a man remembered for his kindness, dedication, and the positive impact he had on all

Turn To GILES page A1



Healey-Driscoll administration announces \$830,000 grant for Pinrock Road Bridge

AUBURN — Last week, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that Auburn's Pinrock Road Bridge has been selected to receive a construction grant under the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Funding for Accelerated Infrastructure Repair (FAIR) Program. The nearly \$830,000 grant will pay for the bridge's preservation project, including the repair of concrete decks, the installation of a new wearing surface on the bridge deck, upgrades to the bridge's safety features, and more.

Built in 1957, Pinrock Road Bridge was identified as being in disrepair by a

Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) inspection report. While the structure was observed to have no substructure issues, the superstructure, roadway approaches, and pedestrian safety infrastructure are in need of repair.

The \$829,989.22 grant is expected to cover the actual construction costs of the project, including a \$75,000 allowance for engineering services.

"I'm pleased that MassDOT has selected Auburn as the recipient of a generous grant to cover the costs of its Pinrock Road Bridge renovation project,"

said Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). "This bridge has long been in need of repairs, and because of these dollars awarded through the FAIR Program, the town can now get this project done without draining its yearly Chapter 90 funds. Thank you to the Governor, her administration, and everyone who helped make this grant a reality - I'm looking forward to the completion of these important repairs."

Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn) commented, "This is an important project for Auburn and I'm very grateful MassDOT is awarding this funding to get it

Turn To GRANT page A9



Courtesy

BLOMQUIST, QUARSHIRE, AND MUNDELL SHINE IN DISCUS

Oxford High School athletes Tyler Blomquist, Devyn Quarshire, and Alex Mundell delivered a strong performance at the discus relay event held on May 2 at Shepherd Hill Regional High School. Competing against talented teams from across the region, the trio earned second place and brought home silver medals with a combined throwing distance of 110.53 meters. The impressive finish highlighted the dedication and hard work of the Oxford track and field athletes throughout the season. Coaches, teammates, and supporters celebrated the team's achievement and their outstanding representation of Oxford High School at the competition.

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 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
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Dudley voters to weigh in on \$31 million budget

DUDLEY — A \$31 million town budget for Fiscal Year 2027 and whether firearms should remain prohibited on town property are among the 17 items voters will decide at the Annual Town Meeting.

The 7 p.m. meeting on May 18 will be located at Shepherd Hill Regional High School, 68 Dudley-Oxford Rd., Dudley.

The 17 articles on the warrant include a request by Police Chief Marek Karłowicz to exempt municipal buildings, grounds or parking areas from being classified as a "prohibited area" for the

possession of firearms as defined in Massachusetts General Law Chapter 269, Section 10.

In financial matters, the Board of Selectmen and finance committee seek voter approval on a \$31,027,502 FY2027 town budget, which includes \$13 million for the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District; \$1.2 million for Bay Path votech; \$2.3 million for the Water Department, and \$2.4 million for the Sewer Department. The budget is supported, in part, with \$17.6 million in property taxes; \$2.4 million

state aid; \$252,676 from stabilization; \$578,548 from capital stabilization, and \$3.9 million in local receipts.

Six of the 17 articles are requests by the Water-Sewer Commission. Three of those articles are end-of-fiscal-year budget transfers from retained earnings to other budget line items. The Commission also seeks to transfer \$75,000 from retained earnings to replace a truck in the Sewer Department; transfer \$120,000 from retained earnings to purchase equipment related to inventorying the

service lines; transfer \$207,050 from the PFAS Settlement Account to pay outstanding PFAS debt, and to borrow \$100,000 for the cost of updating the town's lead and other service line inventory.

The Board of Selectmen seeks approval to permit the on-premises consumption of alcohol during the hours of 10 a.m. through noon on Sundays, the last Monday in May and on Christmas Day.

To see the full warrant, visit: www.dudleyma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_05182026-345.

Memorial Day services planned across Webster and Dudley

WEBSTER/DUDLEY

Veterans organizations from Webster and Dudley will take part in a series of Memorial Day observances Monday, May 25, honoring military service members who died in defense of the nation.

Participants carrying organizational colors are asked to assemble at the Veterans Home in Webster by 8:30 a.m. Transportation by bus will depart at 9 a.m. to begin the day's memorial services throughout both communities.

The annual program includes multiple stops at memorials and civic locations in Webster and Dudley, where veterans, local officials and residents will gather for

ceremonies of remembrance.

The first observance is scheduled for approximately 9:10 a.m. at Memorial Beach in Webster. The group is expected to depart around 9:30 a.m. for Dudley Town Hall, where services are scheduled to begin around 9:40 a.m.

Following the Dudley ceremony, participants will travel to the Zmetra Memorial in Webster, arriving at approximately 10:30 a.m. and remaining through the start of the town's annual Memorial Day parade at 11 a.m.

Later ceremonies are scheduled for Webster Town Hall beginning around noon. The day's observances will conclude with a final cere-

mony at approximately 1:30 p.m. at the Urbanowski Memorial near the Slater Memorial Museum.

Organizers are asking veterans groups and representatives to arrive several minutes before each scheduled ceremony to ensure events begin on time.

The Memorial Day observances serve as a longstanding tradition in Webster and Dudley, bringing together veterans' organizations, local officials and residents in remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice during military service.

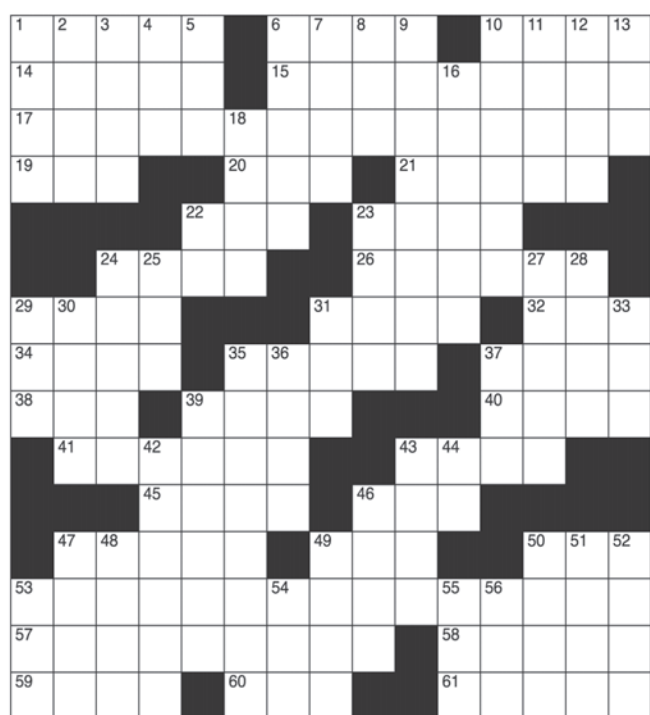
Auburn Historical Society & Museum offers summer internship program

AUBURN — For the sixth year, the Auburn Historical Society and Museum will offer a summer internship program at their museum at 41 South St. on Tuesday and Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The program will offer interns experience in photo and document organizing/categorizing, researching Auburn's past and data input for the Holstrom Digital Archives. There will be the development and implementing of children's programs. Interns will also learn how to create and maintain historical exhibits. They will gain practical experience of museum operations.

Each unpaid internship can be tailored to students in grade 8 through college, scouts, youth groups, and those looking for community service hours as well as work experience. The museum is handicapped accessible. You do not need to be a resident of Auburn to be part of this program.

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



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



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Wednesday9 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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OXFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT (987-6012)
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Friday8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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For emergencies, call 911

WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (949-3875)
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Saturday8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Volunteers invited to assist with Memorial Day flag placement in Webster and Dudley

WEBSTER/DUDLEY — Local veterans' organizations, scouts and volunteers will once again gather throughout May to place American flags and wreaths at the graves of deceased veterans in Webster and Dudley cemeteries ahead of Memorial Day observances.

Community members are invited to participate in the annual tradition, which honors military veterans laid to rest throughout the area. Several organized flag placing events are scheduled over the coming weeks, coordinated by local veterans' groups and the Webster-Dudley Veterans District Office.

The first event will take place Friday, May 15, at 9

a.m. at Corbin Cemetery, located at 4 Corbin Rd. in Dudley. The Veterans District Office will oversee responsibilities for the event.

On Saturday, May 16, volunteers will gather at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph Cemetery in Webster. The effort will be coordinated by the MAPFRE Veterans Group and the Polish American Veterans Club.

Additional volunteers will be welcomed Wednesday, May 20, at 6 p.m. at Mount Zion Cemetery. Boy Scouts and the MAPFRE Veterans Group are helping organize the placement effort, with organizers encouraging all community members to assist.

Two additional cemetery events are planned for Thursday, May 21. Volunteers will gather at Sacred Heart Cemetery at 12:15 p.m., with responsibilities coordinated by Sacred Heart Cemetery/St. Anthony's and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Later that evening at 6 p.m., volunteers will meet at Calvary Cemetery, where the MAPFRE Veterans Group and American Legion will oversee the flag placement.

Stephen Rogerson, District Veterans' Services Director for Webster and Dudley, said all residents are encouraged to take part in the annual tradition of honoring local veterans.

"Everyone is invited to take part in the flag placing of flags for deceased veterans at any of the locations," Rogerson said in the announcement.

Residents with questions or seeking additional information may contact Rogerson through the Webster Veterans District Office at 508-949-3855, the Dudley office at 508-949-8010, or by mobile phone at 617-599-6041.

The annual events serve as an important lead-up to Memorial Day ceremonies across Webster and Dudley, helping ensure veterans' gravesites are respectfully marked in remembrance of their military service and sacrifice.

Dudley Government Study Committee seeks residents' comments before publishing recommendations

DUDLEY — Since July 2025, the Government Study Committee has reviewed the town's organizational and financial structure, researched best practices in peer communities, and gathered input from town officials and residents.

The committee is set to begin deliberations and vote on its findings and recommendations, which are to be presented to the Board of Selectmen by July 1. These recommendations may lead to further action at the Fall Special Town Meeting.

The Committee invites residents to a public information meeting at 5:30 p.m. on May 20 at the Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main St., third floor.

Residents' call for an audit of the Town's financial workings resulted in a state Department of Revenue Division of Local Services audit at Town Hall during the summer of 2024. The audit encompassed Dudley's government structure, fiscal planning, financial policies, information technology, and operational practices of its financial offices.

The findings report, published in December 2024, identified 16 areas of concern and made recommendations for changed practices. The report emphasized that Dudley's decentralized government structure lacks essential coordination and communication, hindering its ability to function effectively and efficiently.

One key recommendation was to create an independent Government Study Committee.

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of May 3-9.

Gianni Anthony Rodrigues, age 18, of Johnston, R.I. was arrested on May 3 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Marlin Bwire Juma, age 27, of Webster was arrested on May 3 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Leaving the Scene of Property Damage, and a Marked Lanes Violation.

A 60-year-old female from Webster whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on May 5 for Assault & Battery.

Robert J. Copper, age 32, of Webster was arrested on May 5 in connection with a warrant.

Angelo Cruz, age 21, of Worcester was arrested on May 7 for Receiving Stolen Property, multiple counts of Possession of Ammunition Without an FID Card, leaving Ammunition Unattended, Wanton or Reckless Behavior Causing Risk to a Child, and Improper Storage of a Firearm. Maria Esther Lozada, age 24, of Worcester was arrested during the same incident in connection with a warrant. A 25-year-old male from Webster received a summons in lieu of arrest during the same incident for Receiving Stolen Property, Possession of a Firearm Without an FID Card, Possession of Ammunition Without an FID Card, and leaving Ammunition Unattended, Improper Storage of a Firearm, Wanton or Reckless Behavior Causing Risk to a Child, and multiple counts of drug possession.

Jason R. Tubo, age 44, of Sherborn was arrested on May 8 on Probable Cause From Another Agency.

Carlos G. Otero, age 24, of North Grosvenordale, Conn. was arrested on May 9 for Possession of a Class B Drug, operating an Unregistered and Uninsured Motor Vehicle, and Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

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

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 1 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Assault & Battery with a Dangerous Weapon.

Brett Marshall Weaver, age 33, of Dudley was arrested on April 1 in connection with a warrant.

Sherry Mae Plitouke, age 35, of Southbridge was arrested on April 3 for Operating Under the Influence (Drugs), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and multiple counts of drug possession.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 4 for Domestic Assault & Battery.

Alexander Anthony Sclamo, age 21, of Auburn was arrested on April 11 for Leaving the Scene of Property Damage, Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and a Marked Lanes Violation.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 25 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was taken into protective custody on April 27.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 27 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication was arrested on April 29 for Domestic Assault & Battery, Strangulation or Suffocation, and multiple counts of Assault with a Dangerous Weapon.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The people who quietly hold a school together

There are certain people in every school building whose names may never appear on honor rolls, championship banners, or graduation programs, yet whose presence becomes part of the very heartbeat of the place itself.

They are the first to arrive and often the last to leave. They shovel snow before sunrise, clean hallways after concerts and games, unlock doors before students arrive, and quietly repair the small daily problems most of us never even notice. They do their work without applause because they believe in taking care of a place that matters to others.

This week's memorial dedication at Oxford High School honoring custodian Mark Giles was a reminder of how deeply those quiet acts of service shape a community.

The ceremony itself spoke volumes. Family, friends, staff, students, and community members gathered not out of obligation, but out of genuine affection and respect. The stories shared by Ed Kay and David Youngsman painted the picture of a man who was valued not only for the work he performed, but for the kindness and steadiness he brought to the people around him each day.

That is often the true measure of a life.

Schools are not held together solely by administrators, teachers, coaches, or budgets. They are held together by people who care enough to invest themselves fully into the daily life of a building. Students may not always remember every lesson taught in a classroom, but they remember the adults who treated them with warmth, humor, patience, and dignity.

Custodians are frequently among those people.

For many students, especially teenagers navigating difficult years, a friendly greeting in the hallway or a familiar face each morning matters more than adults sometimes realize. The people who quietly create safe, welcoming spaces become woven into students' memories of school life itself.

The decision to place Mark Giles' memorial plaque beside the flagpole feels especially fitting. A flagpole stands as a place of gathering, reflection, and community identity. It is seen by everyone who enters the school grounds. The plaque ensures that future generations of students, many of whom never had the opportunity to know him personally, will still understand that this school once had someone whose presence mattered deeply.

The NJROTC cadets' participation added another meaningful layer to the ceremony. The folding and presentation of the American flag to Mark's wife was more than a formal gesture. It symbolized gratitude for a life devoted to serving others, even in ways that rarely seek recognition.

In recent years, schools across the country have faced enormous pressures and challenges. Amid conversations about testing, technology, staffing shortages, and budgets, it becomes easy to overlook the human side of education. Yet moments like this remind us that schools are ultimately communities first.

A well-run school depends on countless people whose work often goes unnoticed until they are gone. Bus drivers, cafeteria workers, paraprofessionals, office staff, custodians, maintenance workers, and crossing guards all help shape the daily rhythm and spirit of a school.

They deserve to be remembered.

Oxford High School's tribute to Mark Giles was not only a memorial to one man. It was also a recognition of the quiet dignity found in showing up every day, working hard, treating people kindly, and caring deeply about a community.

Those legacies last far longer than bronze plaques ever can.

Viewpoint

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

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.

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

LANTERNS
ALONG
MAIN
STREET
By CHARLES

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

Re-elect John Eul to the Board of Selectmen

To the Editor:

My name is John Eul, and I currently serve as Chair of the Oxford Board of Selectmen. I recently celebrated my 80th birthday, and after a ten-year struggle, I'm grateful to say I am finally cancer-free.

My family continues to ask me, "Why are you running again?" and all I can say is this: because I care about all of us—not just some of us. The last few months have been challenging for our community, and my daily role has been to listen, guide, and support our departments, committees, and boards as they worked together to produce a balanced budget—one that provided each department with what it needed, even if not everything they wanted. During this time, I also had to make difficult decisions, including appointing an interim police chief and an interim town manager, while securing

search consultants, developing the search criteria, and working closely with them throughout the process. I am thankful to the full Board of Selectmen for their collaboration, guidance, and support throughout this demanding period.

I am asking for your vote so I can continue doing the steady, practical work this town deserves: keeping our finances responsible, supporting public safety and town services, and helping Oxford move forward with leadership that is transparent and accountable.

Move Oxford Forward — through people, not politics.

Choose hope, not hate.

Please vote on May 19.

JOHN EUL
OXFORD

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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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. Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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.
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 Manna Food Pantry
 Open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.
 6 to 8 pm (Doors open at 5:45)
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 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



Dudley Scout Troop to plant Red Maple in honor of America's 250th

DUDLEY — Dudley Boy Scout Troop 273 will assist in planting a Red Maple tree at the Dudley Grange, located at 139 Center Rd. in Dudley, on May 16 at 10 a.m. The Red Maple is donated to Dudley by The Quiet Corner Garden Club of Woodstock, Conn. in celebration of America's 250th Birthday.

The Quiet Corner Garden Club is planting trees in 14 towns across north-east Connecticut and in two towns in

Massachusetts where their Garden Club members reside. The trees were purchased through a grant from the National Garden's Club Plant America Program and funds raised from the Quiet Corner Garden Club's annual plant sale. Come out and join us on Saturday, May 16 at 10 a.m. as we plant this tree to commemorate America's 250th birthday. Light refreshments will be available.

Bartlett Girls' Track puts up strong showing against Auburn

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High School girls track and field team put together another strong showing during last Wednesday's meet against a very good Auburn High School team. The meet was highlighted by top-three finishes and numerous personal and season-best performances.

Leading the way for the Indians was Karielyz Morales, who captured first place in the long jump. She also helped power the 4x100 relay team to a strong performance

alongside Isabela Viana, Natalie DeLeon Torres, and Britney Jubin.

In the throwing events, Karisa Safford earned second place in the shot put, while Savaeh Perry continued her standout season with a second place in the javelin and a third-place finish in the discus.

The Indians also received strong efforts across the lineup with many athletes recording both personal records and season-best marks throughout the meet.

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Friday's Child



Korben
Age 9
Registration #8266

Korben is a sweet and loving young boy with a gentle and joyful presence. He enjoys being around others and often engages with peers in his own unique way, using babbling as a form of communication. His personality shines through in the little moments, especially when he is feeling comfortable and connected. Korben finds happiness in simple, meaningful activities. He loves having books read to him and enjoys the closeness and connection that comes with sharing

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>

Can I Adopt?

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

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



Chaffee Kindergarten students celebrate Earth Day with music and poetry



OXFORD — On Thursday, May 1, kindergarten students at Chaffee Elementary School welcomed families and friends for a special Earth Day concert filled with music, poetry, and joyful performances. Led by their teacher, Ms. Stark, the students proudly showcased what they had been practicing for weeks. The concert featured a variety of Earth Day-themed songs, heartfelt poems, and even a special musical performance presented in sign language.

Parents and family members packed the audience and enjoyed watching the young performers confidently take the stage. Smiles, applause, and laughter filled the room as students shared important messages about caring for the Earth and protecting the environment. The sign language performance was a highlight of the concert, demonstrating the students' creativity, hard work, and enthusiasm. Families were impressed by the children's energy and dedication throughout the show.

The Earth Day concert was a wonderful celebration of learning, teamwork, and community spirit, leaving everyone proud of the talented kindergarten students at Chaffee Elementary School.

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Oxford community comes together for cookout on the Common

OXFORD — Families, students, and staff gathered on the Oxford Common on Main Street on May 7 for the Oxford Public Schools Community Cookout. With sunny skies overhead and the smell of hamburgers and hot dogs filling the air, the event brought the community together for an evening of food, fun, and connection.

The cookout saw a tremendous turnout as families

enjoyed time relaxing, sharing a meal, and spending time with students, teachers, and staff outside of the school day. Children played and laughed while community members enjoyed the warm spring weather and welcoming atmosphere.

A special thank you goes to the Community Subcommittee for organizing the successful event and helping create a memorable evening for everyone

involved. Another big thank you goes to Jodi Foster and her team for setting up an amazing tent area and preparing food for the crowd.

The Community Cookout was a wonderful reminder of the strong relationships and sense of togetherness that make Oxford Public Schools such a special community.



WooSox player Nick Sogard visits Park Avenue Elementary School



Courtesy

Shawn Hetherman, School Custodian, having a moment with Nick Sogard outside Park Avenue Elementary School.

by Sonique before taking questions from students acting as reporters and getting a glimpse of the “Park Avenue Monster” built specifically for him.

Students asked a wide range of questions about baseball, teamwork, overcoming challenges, and life as a professional athlete. One of the biggest reactions from students came when Sogard shared that Paul Skenes was the toughest pitcher he has ever faced. At the conclusion of the event, the students presented Nick with a baseball signed by all of the fourth grade students as a thank you for visiting Park Avenue Elementary School.

Dean of Students Matthew Aronian praised both the students and the message shared during the event.

“This was such a meaningful experience for our students,” Aronian said. “Nick’s journey showed our students that success comes from perseverance, dedication, and learning how to overcome obstacles.”

Aronian also complimented the fourth graders for the way they prepared and participated during the event.

“Our students truly impressed everyone in the room,” he said. “They asked thoughtful questions, listened respectfully, and represented Park Avenue Elementary School incredibly well.”

To close out the press conference, Sogard had the opportunity to hit a ball over the “Park Avenue Monster” in hopes of earning the fourth graders an extra 10 minutes of recess on Monday. The gymnasium erupted with excitement as students cheered him on during the fun finale. A special thank you was also extended to Emerson White, Manager of Community Relations for the WooSox, for helping organize the annual event and continuing to bring impactful experiences like this to Park Avenue Elementary School students.

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LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 11 Dalessandro Avenue a/k/a 11 D'Alessandro Avenue, Dudley, MA 01571

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Scott Roseen and Karen Roseen to Household Finance Corporation II, and now held by **U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust**, said mortgage dated April 1, 2003 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 29550, Page 155, as affected by a Loan Modification dated April 11, 2023 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 69122, Page 86; said mortgage was assigned from Household Finance Corporation II to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust by assignment dated September 11, 2014 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 52797, Page 325; said mortgage was assigned from U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. by assignment dated April 3, 2017 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 61008, Page 371; said mortgage was assigned from DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment dated September 15, 2022 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68285, Page 19; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on June 8, 2026 at 09:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon of every nature and description and all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, situated on the westerly side of D'Alessandro Avenue, in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, and being Lot #15 on plan of lots surveyed for Stanley Deren et al, Dudley, Mass., dated August 28, 1952, drawn by Henry A. Racicot, Engr., and recorded with the Worcester District Registry Of Deeds, Plan Book 184, Plan 13, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the southeasterly corner thereof, at a stake on the westerly side of said D'Alessandro Avenue, said stake being at the northeasterly corner of Lot #16 as shown on the aforesaid plan; Thence North 82 deg. 18' West by the northerly line of said Lot #16 for a distance of ninety-eight and seventy-three hundredths (98.73) feet to a stake at land of John Ruda, Jr.; Thence North 6 deg. 18' East by land of said Ruda, a distance of eighty-three and sixty-five hundredths (83.65) feet to a stake at the southwestwesterly corner of lot #14 on said plan; Thence South 81 deg. 19' East by the southerly line of said Lot #14 a distance of one hundred and fifty hundredths (100.50) feet to a stake on the westerly line of said D'Alessandro Avenue; Thence South 7 deg. 39' West by the Westerly line of said D'Alessandro Avenue, a distance of eighty-two (82) feet to the point of beginning. Subject to the following restrictions: 1. NO BUILDING OR PART OF A BUILDING SHALL BE ERECTED OR MAINTAINED THEREON WITHIN THIRTY (30) FEET OF THE STREET LINE; 2. NO HOUSE SHALL BE BUILT THEREON AT A LESS COST THAN SIX THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$6,000.00) DOLLARS; 3 THE PREMISES AND BUILDING THEREON SHALL BE USED FOR TRADE OR MANUFACTURE BUT FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES ONLY; 4. NO STABLE SHALL BE ERECTED THEREON AND NO HORSES, CATTLE, SWINE, OR POULTRY SHALL BE KEPT ON THE PREMISES. SUBJECT ALSO TO THE RIGHTS OF THE NEW ENGLAND TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY AND THE WORCESTER COUNTY ELECTRIC COMPANY TO ERECT AND MAINTAIN POLES AND WIRES, AS RECORDED WITH THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS, BOOK 3359, PAGE 56 AND IN BOOK 3489, PAGE 407. BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED FROM HENRY R. GELINEAU, NOT STATED TO SCOTT ROSEEN AND KAREN ROSEEN, HUSBAND AND WIFE/ T/B/E BY DEED RECORDED 5/29/1998, IN BOOK 20005, AT PAGE 130, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

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

For Mortgagor's Title see deed

dated May 29, 1998 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 20005, Page 130.

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

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

Brock & Scott, PLLC

23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762

Attorney for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
May 8, 2026
May 15, 2026
May 22, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jeffrey A. Patterson, Melissa A. Patterson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank, N.A., dated November 12, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42107, Page 356, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for First Horizon Home Loans, a division of First Tennessee Bank N.A., its successors and assigns to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, recorded on February 24, 2023, in Book No. 68857, at Page 395

Nationstar Mortgage LLC to US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST, recorded on December 18, 2024, in Book No. 71432, at Page 39

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 4:00 PM on May 29, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 8 1/2 Sutton Avenue a/k/a 8.5 Sutton Avenue, Oxford, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

JEFFREY A. PATTERSON AND MELISSA A. PATTERSON, HUSBAND AND WIFE, AS TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY

A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS SITUATED THEREON OFF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SUTTON AVE., OXFORD, WORCESTER COUNTY, BEING SHOWN ON PLAT OF LAND OXFORD PREPARED FOR STANFORD SEED COMPANY, DATED JANUARY 30, 1991 AND RECORDED N PLAN BOOK 647, PLAN 121 BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ALONG THE DIRT DRIVE AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAN, WHICH POINT IS THE NORTHEASTERLY CORNER OF THE 15,183 SQUARE FOOT PARCEL OF LAND SHOWN ON SAID PLAN; THENCE N. 83 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 41 SECONDS W. 71.35 FEET BY SAID PARCEL OF LAND IDENTIFIED ON SAID PLAN CONTAINING 15,183 SQUARE FEET; THENCE N. 6 DEGREES 10 MINUTES 05 SECONDS E. 62.30 FEET BY LAND OF PROVIDENCE AND WORCESTER RAILROAD TO THE MOST NORTHWESTERLY CORNER; THENCE S. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS E. 131.34 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY BARRE; THENCE S. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS W. 139.26 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY MILLER; THENCE N. 82 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 56 SECONDS W. 57.75 FEET BY LAND NOW OR FORMERLY OWNED BY C. PARISEAU AND SAID DIRT DRIVE; THENCE N. 8 DEGREES 14 MINUTES 00 SECONDS E. 77.52 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL CONTAINING 12,533 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS. BEING THE SAME PREMISES CONVEYED TO THE GRANTORS BY DEED OF HERITAGE EQUITY RESOURCES, INC. DATED APRIL 7,

1993 AND RECORDED WITH THE WORCESTER DISTRICT REGISTRY OF DEEDS BOOK 15077, PAGE 389. SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS, EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, OIL, GAS OR MINERAL RIGHTS OF RECORD, IF ANY. MAP: 34C; LOT: E28

For mortgagor's(s) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 19484, Page 253.

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

TERMS OF SALE:

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

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

US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR VRMTG ASSET TRUST

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

23228

May 8, 2026

May 15, 2026

May 22, 2026

MORTGAGEE'S SALE

OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Charles Socia, Jr. to BNY Mortgage Company LLC, dated November 24, 2006 and recorded at Worcester County Registry of Deeds on November 30, 2006, in Book No. 40254, at Page 281, as assigned to Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc by Assignment of Security Instrument dated November 18, 2007 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 45099 Page 149, as further assigned to MetLife Home Loans, a Division of MetLife Bank, N.A. by Assignment of Mortgage dated August 25, 2011 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 47795, Page 317, as further assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by Assignment of Mortgage dated December 18, 2012 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 50288, Page 295, as further assigned to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Assignment of Mortgage dated May 21, 2020 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 62440, Page 150, as further assigned to Windstream Capital LLC by Assignment of Mortgage dated January 20, 2026 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 73109, Page 197, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder Windstream Capital LLC, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 10:00 AM, on June 9, 2026 on the mortgaged premises being known as 6 Oak Drive, North Oxford, MA, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land situated in the Town of Oxford and being Lot #4 on plan of land in North Oxford, Massachusetts owned by John F. White, surveyed by Walter W. Brown, Town Engineer, Oxford, which plan is recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 163, Plan 40, bounded and described as follows:- BEGINNING at the northeasterly corner of the tract to be conveyed at an iron pipe driven in the ground on the westerly line of a private road known as Oak Drive, also being the southeasterly corner of other land now or formerly of John White, and said pipe is located 229.75 feet southerly, measured along the westerly line of Oak Drive; from the southerly line of Southbridge Street; From said pipe: THENCE by the westerly line of Oak Drive, S. 23° 08' E. one hundred (100) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground

at other land of said White; THENCE by said other land of White, S. 74° 21' W. two hundred eighty-one and 7/10 (281.7) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at land now or formerly of Wilfred Boutillette et als; THENCE by said Boutillette et als land, N. 13° 55' E. one hundred (100) feet to an iron pipe driven in the ground at other land now or formerly of John White; THENCE by said White land, N. 71° 17' E. two hundred twenty-one and 1/10 (221.1) feet to the place of beginning. Containing 23,364 square feet and being the same premises conveyed to Camosse Bros., Inc., dated November 16, 1949 by deed of John White, recorded with said Registry of Deeds, Book 3390, Page 370.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of Camosse Bros., Inc., dated October 1, 1955, recorded at Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book No. 3720, at Page 318.

The above described premises will be sold **SUBJECT TO** and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, covenants, conditions, building and zoning laws, to any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, water and sewer charges, municipal or other public taxes, assessments or liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, if any.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$7,500.00 DOLLARS shall be required to be made to the mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 500 Turnpike Street Suite 201, Canton, MA 02021, in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared sold by the auctioneer.

The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its publication. OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE SALE.

(signed:) Windstream Capital LLC

Present Holder of said Mortgage

By its Attorneys,

Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil S. Cohen, Esquire

Attorney for the Mortgagee

500 Turnpike Street Suite 201,

Canton, MA 02021

(617) 332-4700

May 8, 2026

May 15, 2026

May 22, 2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court

Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

Docket No. WO26P1408PO

TRUST CITATION

In the matter of:

Sutton Estates Nominee Trust

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

Karen Quaiel of Dudley MA and

Catherine M Ceppetelli of Webster MA

Jane E Morse of Brooklyn CT and

Sally M Ceppetelli of Webster MA

requesting requesting appoint a successor trustee to serve as set forth in said petition, and for such further relief as this Court deems proper .

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 05/26/2026.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: April 28, 2026

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

May 15, 2026

PARADE

continued from page A1

Cemetery and travel to Webster Town Hall Plaza, where ceremonies will be held at the Veterans Court of Honor.

Leading the procession will be a Webster Police cruiser, followed by national colors and color guards. This year's Grand Marshal is James Sunderstrom, a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran. Richard Cazeault, also a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran, will serve as guest speaker.

Veterans' groups expected to participate include American Legion Post 184, the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion, VFW Post 654, DAV Chapter 53 and the Polish American Veterans and auxiliaries. Veterans riding in vehicles and walking veterans from Webster and Dudley will also be part of the procession.

Local elected officials, including the Webster and Dudley Boards of Selectmen, state legislators and other dignitaries, are expected to attend.

Community participation remains a hallmark of the annual event. Shepherd Hill Regional High School's band and cheerleaders are scheduled to march alongside numerous civic and faith organizations, including the Webster Lodge of Masons, Daughters of Isabella, Webster Knights of Columbus, Saints Constantine and Helen Orthodox Church, First Baptist Church and Life Church.

Additional entries include DARE vehicles, antique cars, military vehicles and 4-H participants, including the Green Valley Farmers and a horse-and-buggy unit.

The parade's second division will feature many youth organizations and schools, including Saint Joseph School, All Saints Academy, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops from Webster and Dudley, Brownie troops, Canty Dance Centre, Pop Warner Football, the Webster-Dudley Boys and Girls Club and the Dudley Youth Academy.

Students from Bartlett High School's National Honor Society and Job Corps participants are also expected to march.

Healthcare and senior care organizations participating include Harrington Regional Hospital, Webster Manor, Lanessa Extended Care, Christopher Heights and Brookside Rehabilitation.

The procession will conclude with emergency responders from the Webster Fire Department, Webster EMS, Webster Rescue Squad and the Dudley Fire Department and Ambulance Squad.

Organizers emphasized that the order of march has been carefully planned and requested that all groups follow parade marshals' instructions to avoid large gaps within the procession.

Participants have also been asked not to throw candy or other items to spectators, citing both safety concerns and the solemn nature of the observance.

The annual Memorial Day parade remains one of Webster's longest-standing civic traditions, drawing residents from Webster, Dudley and surrounding communities to pause in remembrance of those who died while serving the nation.

BALLOT

continued from page A1

they should be," she said of the budgets submitted by department heads.

State Rep. John Marsi informed those gathered that night that his work to bring more state aid to the town and its regional school district failed to pass in the state House.

GILES

continued from page A1

of the students and staff.

The ceremony brought together many who knew and cared deeply for Mark. Guests shared stories, memories, and reflections on the countless ways he touched the lives of

GRANT

continued from page A1

done. Now, over \$800,000 can be saved by Auburn to be used for local roads."

Over the last several years, the Town of Auburn's Engineering Division has been working with MassDOT to identify

"There are increases in local aid but not what they need to be," Marsi said.

Dudley, he said, is in the "same boat" as many other communities.

The \$31,027,502 town budget that will be presented to voters at the May 18 Annual Town Meeting was balanced by wiping out the town's savings accounts, known as sta-

those around him during his years at Oxford High School.

Ed Kay and David Youngsman delivered moving remarks during the dedication. Both spoke beautifully about Mark's character, work ethic, and the friendships he built throughout the school community. Their heart-

felt memories captured the respect and admiration so many felt for him. Members of the NJROTC added a meaningful touch to the event by presenting the colors during the ceremony. In a powerful moment of honor and remembrance, cadets carefully folded the American flag and present-

bilization: \$252,676 from general stabilization and \$578,548 from the capital stabilization account. If the override passes, those funds will be returned to both stabilization accounts and department

requests will be fully funded. The projected tax impact on the average single-family home valued at \$449,928 would be \$485

per year.

More information on how residents may determine the tax impact on their property will be presented during the public information meetings. To view the meeting deliberations and vote for the override, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8b0HmpY-38KU&t=2773s>.

ed it to Mark's wife as a symbol of gratitude and respect for his life and service to the Oxford school community.

The memorial plaque now stands as a permanent reminder of Mark Giles' legacy and the lasting impression he left on Oxford High School.

ment of municipal-owned bridges falls to the cities and towns they reside in. The FAIR Program, established by Governor Healey earlier this year, addresses the strain bridge repairs put on municipal budgets by providing a dedicated, centralized source of funding for these projects.

Chapter 90 allocation, this project would divert a significant portion of funds away from other needed repairs and maintenance across the town.

Despite federal law requiring MassDOT to inspect all bridges in the Commonwealth, the cost of maintenance and replacement of municipal-owned bridges falls to the cities and towns they reside in. The FAIR Program, established by Governor Healey earlier this year, addresses the strain bridge repairs put on municipal budgets by providing a dedicated, centralized source of funding for these projects.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$865,000, 217 Prospect St, Homepromass Contracting L, to Lajoie, Jordan, and Lajoie, Eric.

\$570,000, 104 Appleton Rd, Lajoie, Jordan, to Riello, Jennifer A, and Riello, Gary.

\$205,000, 808 Washington St, Paula A Sobosik Ret, and Sobosik, Paula A, to Boudreau, Perry.

DUDLEY

\$260,000, Putnam Rd, Akeley, Ansel D, to Blueberry Investments

LLC.

OXFORD

\$510,000, 26 Water St, Moriarty, Timothy S, and Kimbell, Malinda S, to Bergeron, Chyann Mm.

\$415,000, 6 Bartlett St, Wrona, Emilia, to Corazzini, Alyssa A.

\$339,900, 17 Thayer Pond Dr #2, Twine, Janet L, to Crone, Donna.

WEBSTER

\$1,100,000, 53-55 Point Pleasant Rd, Rose A Angelo Irt,

and Angelo, Thomas M, to Point Pleasant Partners L.

\$850,000, 10 Indian Point Rd, Ravenelle, Karen M, to Ramsdell, Kathryn Fanous, and Ramsdell, Travis.

\$545,000, 1 Brook St, Faille, Tyler, to Hernandez, Thalia, and Torres, Emilio M.

\$355,000, 14 Humes St, Alvarez, Ricardo, and Adrovet, Wanda, to Adrovet, Angel R, and Figueroa, Carmen.

\$20,000, 168 Chase Ave, Ahmed, Hany A, to Chase T, and Elbrol, Ahlam.

LEGALS

TOWN OF DUDLEY
Notice to Bidders

The Town of Dudley is requesting bids for the following construction materials and services for various departments for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

ITEM #1 – All grades of medium curing asphalt and emulsion type asphalt.

ITEM #2 – Bituminous concrete, at plant.

ITEM #2A – Bituminous concrete, in place.

ITEM #3 – Gravel and Washed screened sand at owner's pit and delivered.

ITEM #4 – Screened stone at owners' pit and delivered.

ITEM #5 – Corrugated pipe, steel, and aluminum, delivered to highway garage.

ITEM#6 – Corrugated pipe, polyethylene delivered to highway garage.

ITEM #7 – Cold Plaining

ITEM #8 – Asphalt Rubber SAM

Bidders of Items #2A and #8 must be pre-qualified and have a Certificate of Approval from Mass Highway Specifications.

Bids will be received by the Chief Procurement Officer in the Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571 until **11:00am on June 2, 2026**, at which time they will be opened and read. **All envelopes must be sealed and marked "BID" and appropriate "ITEM #" indicated.** The Town of Dudley brings to the attention of bidders Chapter 149, §§26D and 27D of the Mass General laws concerning minimum wage rates where applicable. All bidding must follow all Mass. General Laws. Specifications are available at the Selectmen's office, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571 between 9:00am and 4:00pm Monday through Thursday. Specific questions may be addressed to MJ Gatzke, Highway Superintendent at (508) 949-8020. The Town reserves the right to reject any bid or proposal if deemed in the best interest of the Town.

Jonathan Ruda
Town Administrator
Chief Procurement Officer
May 15, 2026
May 22, 2026

(SEAL)

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 26 SM 001439
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:
Jacqueline L. Nedoroscik a/k/a
Jacqueline L. Lear
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et

seq):
NewRez LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Oxford, numbered 11 Plantation Road, Unit No. 11, of the Plymouth Village Condominium, given by Jacqueline L. Nedoroscik to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Green Tree Servicing LLC, its successors and assigns, dated April 9, 2015, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53652, Page 286, 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 06/15/2026 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 5/1/2026
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
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO26P1525EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Dolores Ann LeBlanc
Date of Death: 04/13/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Judith A Dupont of Dudley MA and Jacqueline A Power of Dudley 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:
Judith A Dupont of Dudley MA and Jacqueline A Power of Dudley MA be appointed as Personal Representa-

tive(s) of said estate to serve Without 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

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 4 Meringo Avenue, Webster, MA 01570

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Julian Vazquez Gonzalez and Marielly Gonzalez Reyes to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for OCMBC, Inc., and now held by Freedom Mortgage Corporation, said mortgage dated February 11, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67115, Page 32, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for OCMBC Inc., its successors and assigns to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment dated March 9, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 68900, Page 40; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on June 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon located at 4 Meringo Avenue a/k/a Meringo Court a/k/a 4 Meringo Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts and more particularly described as follows: The land with the buildings thereon located at 4 Meringo Avenue a/k/a Meringo Court a/k/a 4 Meringo Avenue, Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts and more particularly described as follows:

A certain parcel of land in Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon situate on the southerly side of Meringo Court, so-called bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the N.E. corner thereof at said Court and land of one Rein, now or formerly; THENCE southerly by said Rein land and land formerly of one Haggerty 100 feet; THENCE westerly by said Haggerty land 50 feet; THENCE northerly by land formerly of one Towne 100 feet to said Court; THENCE by said Court Easterly 50 feet to the point of beginning.

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

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated February 8, 2022 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 67115, Page 29.

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

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

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for Freedom Mortgage Corporation
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701

May 15, 2026
May 22, 2026
May 29, 2026

GLADYS E. KELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Lake St., Webster
508-949-3880

Library Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Library will be closed on Monday, May 25th

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

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

Adult Programming

Literacy Volunteers: ESL Classes – Tuesdays at 6:00pm

The Literacy Cafe is a free weekly English conversation class offered by Literacy Volunteers of South Central Massachusetts (LVSCM). This class is free to attend and is open to all adults. For more information, email us

at info@lvscm.org.

Grief Support Group – 2nd Tuesday and 4th Saturday of the Month (6:30pm on Tuesdays; 10:00am on Saturdays) in the Local History Room

Losing a loved one is never easy. Please know that you are not alone. If you need support in trying to navigate the changes in your life, join us in a place of safety and comfort with others who have also experienced loss. This grief support group is a place to find understanding as we explore our grief, share coping strategies, and begin to heal.

Yoga – Saturdays at 9:15am NO CLASS on May 16th

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

relaxation. Classes are free. Funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

Yoga Nidra with Jess – Fridays at 9:00am NO CLASS May 15th or 22nd.

Join Adult Services Librarian Jess for a relaxing yoga nidra practice to start your day. Jess will guide participants through a few simple yoga asanas to release physical tension. Participants will then settle into a reclined position for a guided relaxation (yoga nidra). Registration is required and Jess will meet you at the program door. If you have your own yoga mat, please bring it and be sure to dress in comfortable clothing.

Worcester County Sheriff's Office Hour – First Friday of the Month 9am-10am

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office, Webster Regional Resource Center offers a variety of support services including; sup-

port groups, case management, education (including Hi-Set), employment opportunities, health insurance assistance, MA State ID/B.Cert, substance use and mental health referrals, transportation, recovery coaching and overall support. Their friendly case managers will be offering support the first Friday of every month from 9-10am.

Friends of the Library Book Sale – Thursday, May 14th-Saturday, May 16th

Check out the Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale! Setup in the Community Room May 14th-16th.

Writing Group – Monday, May 18th at 6:00pm

Do you enjoy writing but struggle to find the time or excuse to sit down and do it?

Join us for a low-pressure evening where you can sit and write creatively with others in a cozy setting. There will be prompts available, and time to share

and discuss our projects, or just chat about the writing process, but sharing is not required. Bring something you are currently working on, or start something new! Snacks and drinks will be available.

Adult Book Group – Wednesday, May 20th at 6:30pm

Join the adult book group for their monthly book discussion! In May they are reading and discussing Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. This group meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Copies of the book are always available at the circulation desk, but please notify Jess at jfontaine@cwmar.org to be added to the list.

Programming for All Ages

Library for All – Fridays in May at 10am

Library for All is an inclusive program for teens and adults of all abilities and their caregivers.

Please let us know if you need any special accommodations! Join us every Friday! The 1st week of the month is coloring, the 2nd week is LEGO, the 3rd week is chair yoga, and the 4th week of the month is painting.

Friends Spring Concert Series: Miss Maybell & Her Ragtime Romeos – Thursday, May 14th at 6:30pm

Miss Maybell and Her Ragtime Romeos are known for their large repertoire of Prohibition-Era Jazz, Ragtime and early Blues. Sourcing their tunes directly from dusty old records and antique sheet music, they bring new life to songs created over 100 years ago. With this unique sound and dedication they were recently featured on The NPR Show "Person, Place, Thing" With Randy Cohen. Building a sizable local following in their hometown of New York City from sold out residencies at legendary venues



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such as Birdland Theater, this group has also performed across the country at countless Jazz and Ragtime festivals and even abroad.

Children's and Young Adult Programming
Play-Doh Storytime – Mondays at 10:30am

Join us for an engaging storytime filled with interactive stories and Play-Doh fun! Kids are invited to explore, squish and make new creations each week. This sensory-friendly program is per-

fect for young learners and their grown-ups.

Creators Club – Mondays at 4:00pm

Come explore our Creators Club, where each month features a new theme highlighting a different art supply for kids to experiment with and turn into their own masterpieces! April's theme is Origami! Kids will make their own origami masterpieces to share with friends and family. All creations left behind will be displayed in the Children's program room

for the rest of the month.

Tiny Groovers – Tuesdays at 10:30am

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

Mighty Builders – Tuesdays at 4:00pm

Unleash creativity in our free-build program featuring LEGOs, magnet tiles, wooden blocks, mar-

ble runs, and more!

Teen Therapy Dog Thursday – Thursdays in May from 3:00-4:00pm

Calling all teens! Join us every Thursday in May from 3:00-4:00 PM to de-stress and spend time with Sophie the therapy dog. Sophie and her owner, Robin, are registered with the Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program. Drop in anytime and relax with Sophie!

Whalemobile – Thursday, May 14th with multiple sessions from 3:30pm-5:00pm

Explore the inside of a whale with us! Meet Nile, the life-size inflatable whale who will be traveling to the library for you to explore. Together, we will learn about whales and their important role in our oceans and ecosystems. During the Whalemobile, kids are invited to explore the inside of a life-size, inflatable whale. They are expected to sit quietly in the whale during the presentation. There will be some humming/fan type noise from the machine that keeps the whale inflated. This program is for kids

ages 5+ and registration is required.

Spring Festival – Saturday, May 30th from 11:00am-2:00pm

Join us for our annual Spring Festival! This community event will offer 9 Hole Mini Golf from One Up Games, a dunk tank with some awesome volunteers inside, an ice cream sundae station, soccer darts, henna and more.



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We Want Your Listings!



Southbridge - 14 Servant Way
Featured Listing!

Gently used, well maintained RANCH on a cul-de-sac! 1,300 sq +/-, 3 BRs, 2 full baths, gas fireplace, central AC. A comfortable open space w/lots of natural light, private main BR w/California closets, a remodeled Bath w/handicap accessible wide-door roll-in shower. Offers a half acre of land Close to I-84 & Sturbridge. List Price: \$459,000

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

Thompson ~ 6 Lillian Ave
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Young (2019) Pristine Raised Ranch, 1800+ SF, 3 BRs, LL Family Rm, 2-1/2 Baths, Primary BR Suite, Central AC, Country Setting with .70 Acre Lot & Lg Fenced Area on Cul-de-sac! \$489,900

Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!

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 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

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

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 bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage. \$649,900.00

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



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



Astounding Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$900,000.

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!!

Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home, 2600 +/- SF, 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! \$1,100,000

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A Good Samaritan returns lost Masonic apron

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE
MAJOR GENERAL SALEM TOWNE LODGE
SOUTHBRIDGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Monday, May 4, Major General Salem Towne Masonic Lodge had the

privilege of welcoming guests from the Libertad Lodge # 50 located in East Providence, R.I.

These brethren made the long trip to Major General Salem Towne Lodge (MGSTL) in Southbridge to retrieve a case with a beautiful and valuable Masonic Apron that was lost. A Good Samaritan named Rick (full name unknown) found a briefcase on a Rhode Island on ramp, stopped his car, and picked it up from the road. It is believed that the individual in question resides in the Webster,

Massachusetts area, as this briefcase bearing the Masonic symbol and the name "Libertad Lodge #50" was discovered outside the entrance of the Webster Masonic building.

A note was found inside the briefcase saying I found this Masonic briefcase on the on ramp in Rhode Island, signed "Rick." A Masonic Brother from MGSTL learned that Libertad Lodge #50 is in East Providence, Rhode Island. A phone call was made, and the owners of this Masonic Apron came for a fraternal visit to retrieve their Apron back. While these brethren from Libertad Lodge were here and heard than seen our big Traveling Regalia Gavel, they decided they wanted to take our big beautiful Traveling Regalia Gavel back to East Providence Rhode Island.

Masonic Lodges from across the state or neighboring states may attend regular monthly meetings to collect these Traveling Regalia Gavels. The Libertad members noticed the large, striking big Traveling Regalia Gavel and showed enthusi-

asm about getting involved. To retrieve the gavel and return it to their lodge they must have a minimum of three brothers which must include a Worshipful Master,

an officer and a fellow brother. In return the lodge that it was taken from must go to one of their monthly meetings to retrieve it back. This is one way how fel-

low Master Masons meet new brethren. If you would like more information about Freemasonry, go to www.massfreemasonry.org and to find a lodge nearest you.

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Libertad Lodge #50 members stand with the recovered Masonic Apron, once believed lost, showing their satisfaction.



Left to right: members of the Libertad Lodge holding the Big Beautiful Traveling Regalia Gavel Brother, Planas-Merced, Bro. Alfonzo, Master of (MGSTL) Bro. Anderson, Bro. Siverio and Bro. Alarado-Beris.

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Black Tavern Historical Society to host lecture on Dudley burying grounds

DUDLEY — The Black Tavern Historical Society of Dudley will continue its lecture series Thursday, May 21, with a presentation exploring the history of local cemeteries and burial sites.

Historian Ed Bazinet will present "Burying Grounds of Dudley, MA" at 7 p.m. in the Tavern Barn, located at 138 Center Rd.

The program will focus on Dudley's historic burying grounds and the stories connected to the town's early cemeteries and residents.

The event is free and open to the public. Organizers encourage all interested residents and local history enthusiasts to attend.

Trinity Catholic Academy Science Fair!



SOUTHBRIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy recently hosted its annual Science Fair, highlighting the curiosity, creativity, and academic excellence of our students in grades 5-8. These amazing projects reflected weeks of research, experimentation, and critical thinking as students applied classroom learning to real-world scientific questions.

We are incredibly proud of the effort and enthusiasm our students demonstrated as they explored, discovered, and shared their knowledge with our school community. Thank you to the many folks from our community who volunteered to judge these incredible projects. Congratulations to all who participated, and special recognition to this year's winners:

- Rain Gauge
- Grade 6: 1st place Liliana DeLeon, Can Plants Grow by the Sound of Music?
2nd place Benjamin Zuziak, Which Metal Insulator Keeps Ice Frozen the Longest?
3rd place Kaleigh Haglund, Which Cleaning Product Works the Best?
Honorable Mention Carson Lazo, How Fabrics Absorb Liquids
Honorable Mention Sachi Swadia, How Does Caffeine Affect Plant Growth?
- Grade 7: 1st place Evelyn Howard-Donlin, How Does Being Bilingual Affect Learning and Success?
2nd place Angel Delgado, What Toothpaste Whitens Teeth the Best?
3rd Olivia Latour, Do Fruits Have Similar DNA?
Honorable Mention Jaliany Cruz & Jayden Zarzycki-Kotarba, Acoustic and Electric Guitars
- Grade 8: 1st place Abigail Frazier, Website Designs with Different Age Groups
2nd place Heer Swadia, AI vs Real
3rd place Sophia Gauthier & Celia Ladd, How Music Affects Memory
Honorable Mention Ayden Rodriguez, How Music Affects Plants
Honorable Mention Alexio Yacavace, Obstacle Detecting Walking Stick

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