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Friday, November 6, 2020

Boys and Girls Club steps up amid pandemic

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

DUDLEY – At a time when learning options are limited for local youngsters and parents, the Webster-Dudley Boys and Girls Club is stepping up to make a difference. The staff has gone to great lengths to reimagine programs and protocols, enabling the facility to stay open throughout the pandemic. The team even adjusted to accommodate several community relief efforts.

This past April, the staff answered the call from state leaders and transformed the facility into a drop-off emergency childcare center for healthcare workers, first

responders, and other essential service providers. In September, the team once again delivered for the community by serving as an 8-4 learning hub for children requiring extra guidance to learn productively in a remote learning environment.

This resource has been a vital tool for parents needing assistance while they work.

“Our hub offers learning, snacks, and meals in a space that is safe, well-supervised, and equipped with the modern technology necessary for children to be successful in a virtual environment,” said Dan O’Connor, the president of the Webster-

Dudley Boys and Girls Club. “Our hub is also a great option for children whose parents are simply not able, for any reason, to provide the support needed for their child to excel at home.”

The staff has been able to offer all of these services free of charge to local families. Team members are grateful to everyone involved in the process, beginning in March when the pandemic was rapidly escalating.

“It was a challenging time, but we knew in order to meet the needs of our community, closing our doors was not an option,” said Interim

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Courtesy

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL CELEBRATES THE SPOOKIEST TIME OF YEAR

Although it was snowing outside, St. Joseph School students had a festive end to October. On Friday, Oct. 30, students, faculty, and staff came to school dressed in their fun Halloween costumes. In the past, Buddy Classes and their teachers would parade around the school grounds and then visit the rectory to receive a sweet Halloween treat. However, due to COVID restrictions and the weather, Principal Michael Hackenson and Headmaster Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski brought the goodies to them. Each student received a special Halloween treat bag compliments of the St. Joseph School Home and School Association. The day culminated with parties and activities in each classroom. Besides having a little Halloween fun, students also celebrated the end of the first quarter marking period. The next evening, St. Joseph School 8th Grade students hosted a Spooky Drive-thru event in the schoolyard. Attendees got to see ghostly decorations, glowing jack-o-lanterns, and fun holiday-themed inflatables as they drove through the yard. This year’s events may have been different from year’s past, but the students and faculty of St. Joseph School are finding ways to continue the fun and start new traditions. Here, Pre-K 3-year-old students pose in their costumes with teaching assistant Aurelia Kopec (left), Principal Michael Hackenson, Headmaster, Rev. Grzegorz Chodkowski, and instructor, Alicia Maurer (far right).

School District reports first Positive COVID case

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – The Dudley Charlton Regional School District has recorded its first COVID-19 positive test. On Monday, Oct. 26, district Superintendent Steven Lamarche sent out a letter notifying the public that a bus driver for the district had tested positive for the virus in the district’s first official case of infection since welcoming back students this fall. As with most COVID-19 cases throughout the state, personal information, including the name of the infected, was not revealed to the public to protect the patient’s privacy, however those who had been in close contact with the bus driver were reportedly notified of the situation. It was also confirmed that the driver had not transported students the day of the notification. Superintendent Lamarche addressed the situation briefly in his report to the Regional School Committee on

Wednesday, Oct. 28, complimenting the staff for their continued diligence and indicating that the positive test is not a sign that the district is letting its guard down. “Our staff and student continue to do a remarkable job in practicing all of the required mitigating strategies to prevent the spread in our schools. Our collective efforts will continue to build longevity in our current in-person learning model as we are all well organized and prepared to minimize the transmissibility of a positive COVID-19 case. Additionally, we have a great working relationship with our boards of health, health director and health agent. This collaboration is grounded in open lines of communication, confidentiality and professionalism,” Lamarche said. While the identity of patients and their affiliation with the district are usually kept private, Lamarche felt comfortable identifying the position of the individual as the bus drivers for the district are part of a third party company.

“The purpose of identifying the role of the bus driver was to share that it was not a positive COVID-19 case in our school facilities and thus establishing a particular dynamic that I have observed in other districts,” Lamarche said. “In addition, the bus drivers are an independent vendor and must complete their own processes in combination with our expectations. In hindsight, this might have been better served in the communication so I will continue to work with our team to review future communication and work to provide the right information moving forward when it comes to a bus driver.” In his letter to parents and the public, Lamarche stated that it is current protocol that both students and drivers always wear masks during transportation and that buses are cleaned thoroughly between trips. First Student, the company that operates the bus, is also reviewing tapes from the vehicle in question to determine any increased health risks.

DMA Holdings project taking shape

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – After entering into a community host agreement with DMA Holdings in January, details about the companies plans for a marijuana manufacturing a retail business on Chase Avenue are beginning to emerge. DMA Holdings is seeking to set up Dudley’s first adult-use marijuana growing and retail facilities since the legalization of recreational marijuana in 2016 in Massachusetts. On Oct. 26, the Board of

Selectmen hosted a presentation by representatives of the company explaining more details into their initiative including their present and future business endeavors and a floor plan of the old mill at 35 and 37 Chase Rd., where the businesses will be housed. David Lahar, acting CFO of DMA Holdings, said the company plans to start off small but eventually expand to meet the maximum licensing limitations set by the state. “The largest canopy or area that you can have

under cultivation is 100,000 square feet, what they call a Tier 11. We have been given a Tier 8 license because that’s what we applied for. As a Tier 8 we will have 70,000 square feet of canopy to begin and then we’ll migrate and change the licensing as we add on to the facility to finally hit that maximum canopy of Tier 11,” Lahar said. The manufacturing facility, which will be separate from the retail establishment, will include growing the can-

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Schools OK thermometer pilot, more sports

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD – At their most recent meeting, the Oxford School Committee approved participation in a pilot “smart thermometer” program and additional sports practices. The former, which will be available for now only at the elementary schools, involves what’s called Kinsa for Schools, a program by the Lysol Corp to provide a smartphone app that was “designed before Covid to trace flu, strep and other symptoms,” Chaffee nurse Kathleen Schoemer said. “... If we can teach good habits now ... maybe we’ll have less illness overall.” The concept is simple: parents get the app for free (if their kids are at Chaffee or Barton) and use it to log kids’ temperatures and other symptoms as needed. The results go to Schoemer,

but the records will only identify by age/grade, not by individual. She can reach out if symptoms warrant it to encourage getting a doctor’s opinion. To Chair Dan Coonan, that privacy issue was an initial concern, and Schoemer agreed. “People aren’t going to buy into it if I can track them to their house,” she said, noting many parents have been good about “getting back to me.” She noted, however, there is no option for people without smartphones right now, although she knows some people choose not to use them. The documentation Schoemer provided claims it’s in use in “2000+ public and private schools” nationwide, and describes it as “a nurse in your pocket to help students answer two ques-

tions: Is it serious? [and] What do I do next?” Regarding sports, the proposal called for adding a schedule of 10 “out of season” practices for cheer, football and volleyball with a fairly lengthy list of specific requirements. Those include Covid spacing and a maximum of 25 participants at once; prohibiting parents and other spectators on the fields; prohibiting students currently playing golf, soccer, field hockey or cross country from participating; setting a 90 minute limit per session, which will be entirely outdoors; and with no group contact, including huddles or high fives, among other things. There are also specific items for each sport. “Not having enough data on the safety of ath-

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Donald Perkins — Courtesy

TAKING FLIGHT

Reader Donald Perkins of Webster recently captured this image of a bald eagle at Stump Pond.

3RD ANNUAL

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Nichols College students headed for Super Bowl LV

DUDLEY — Nichols College students studying sport management will be headed to the Super Bowl for the second consecutive year, but the experience will be markedly different.

A group of 10 students and two Nichols faculty members will travel to Tampa, Florida, for the event, which will be hosted at Raymond James Stadium on Feb. 7, 2021. The trip is incorporated in the Super Bowl Practicum course, which aims to provide students with insider access and hands-on field experience in sports.

Priscilla Alfaro-Barrantes, Ph.D., assistant professor of sport management, leads the practicum. “My hope for our students is to learn and have fun,” she says. “The Super Bowl is one of the world’s largest sporting events. The ability to attend not as a fan but as a volunteer employee gives our students an incredible opportunity to connect their coursework to the business of sports.” Students work directly for both the Super Bowl Host Committee and the NFL, volunteering their services at Super Bowl Live, Super Bowl Experience and the main sporting event itself, Super Bowl Sunday.

“This year will be very interesting,” shares Alfaro-

Barrantes. “Our students will have a unique perspective to see how such a well-established event will pivot their offerings to meet the current challenges due to COVID-19. I consider this to be a unique and valuable experience for students, giving them a competitive edge for their future job prospects.”

As part of the experience, each student will be expected to host a social media takeover on the Nichols College accounts, in addition to submitting a reflection paper on their top takeaways, lessons learned, and connections to their coursework.

Alfaro-Barrantes muses, “Last year, I was so proud of the students that attended the Super Bowl experience. They worked 12-hour days, had 3 a.m. wake-up calls and requested more challenging tasks from our volunteer coordinator. They were not distracted by sports legends. They were professional and got the job done. This maturity and a sense of business professionalism in students is something I have found to be unique at Nichols College.”

Students participating in the Super Bowl Practicum this year include:

Thomas Budzinski
Gardner.

Michael Butler of Tewksbury. Sean Carrigan of Millbury. Hunter Clements of Whitensville. Timothy Crandall of Dunstable. Ian Cusick of Greenwich, R.I. Benjamin Ian of Guilford, Conn. Austin Paul of Middleton. Brendan Stierli of Cronton On Hudson, N.Y.

To follow the student’s journey, be sure to follow Nichols College social media accounts.

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dation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow’s leaders. Nichols also offers master’s degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today’s professionals.

WEBSTER TIMES

ACCURACY WATCH:

The Webster Times is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected in a timely manner on page A3. We cannot run corrections based upon differences of opinion or unconfirmable facts. We will, however, print letters to the editor from area residents who wish to add their comments to our news coverage. If you find a mistake, please email news@stonebridgepress.news or call (508) 909-4106. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor’s voicemail box.

DUDLEY POLICE LOG

DUDLEY — The Dudley Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Oct. 23-30.

Osbert D. Ventura, age 41, of Worcester was arrested on Oct. 24 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, Possession of a Class E Drug, Possession of Ammunition Without an FID Card (subsequent offense), Carrying a Loaded Firearm without a License (subsequent offense), and Possession of a Firearm without an FID Card (subsequent offense).

John Patrick Healy, age 56, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 25 in connection with a warrant.


James E. Giroux, age 60, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 29 in connection with a warrant.

A 34-year-old male from Dudley was taken into protective custody on Oct. 29.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 29 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member and Vandalization of Property.

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Maxxon
Age 11

Hi! My name is Maxxon and I love music!

Maxxon is a sweet, inquisitive and kind boy of Caucasian and Hispanic descent. He is generally easy-going and calm. His favorite activities include riding his bike, playing with trucks, and watching television. Maxxon is fascinated with broadcasting and radio. He also enjoys interacting with adults and loves music, especially classic rock. Maxxon has a good sense of humor and will often surprise everyone with a funny joke out of nowhere.

Maxxon is currently attending a therapeutic school with extra supports. He is doing well overall in school and gets along with his peers. Maxxon is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) but is very high functioning. He can do his own daily care and hygiene, and with a little adult support is comfortable accessing his community.

Legally freed for adoption, Maxxon is eagerly awaiting his forever home. His social worker believes that he will thrive in a nurturing family of any constellation, with or without other children in the home. Maxxon has an Open Adoption Agreement and an adoptive family must be willing to help him visit with his birth father three times a year. Maxxon also has two half-sisters in Massachusetts who he would like to remain connected to. Maxxon can be placed outside of Massachusetts but must be within driving distance of the central part of the state.

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THE FAMILY THAT SERVES TOGETHER...
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The original market was founded by Alex Pappas in Webster, over 100 years ago, and the family business has spanned 5 generations. Alex Pappas’ philosophy was always to treat his customers like family and to assure employees always treated them with the utmost respect. Our parents, Charlie and Helen Pappas continued with this same practice. We hopefully have carried on with that tradition.

Throughout the years our customers have become our friends and we will sincerely miss the relationships that have been cultivated.

At this time we also would like to publicly thank our many employees, both past and present, who are and have been dedicated, hardworking and exceedingly loyal to us. Words alone do not begin to express our gratitude to them.

We would also like to recognize the local Police Departments, Fire Departments, Board of Health and all Selectmen. We have always had an excellent relationship with them and feel very fortunate to have had their support over the years.

Throughout the many years, we have enjoyed supporting local youth groups of all kinds, as well as many other local organizations. It is our understanding that the new owner has a stellar reputation of supporting local organizations as well.

In closing, we cannot emphasize enough how grateful we are to have had the opportunity to serve, and been part of, these wonderful communities for so many years.

Kevin Meehan and his staff have our very best wishes and we hope you all will give them the chance to be a great success.

Warmly,
Chuck and Ginny Pappas and family
Gerry and Sandi Kunkel and family

Dudley parent petitions for increased live instruction

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON – In recent weeks, a petition has been floating around on social media seeking support for added in-school learning for the students in the Dudley Charlton Regional School District.

The change.org petition was started by parent Caitlynn Panczyk of Dudley, who sought to send

a message to Superintendent of Schools Steven Lamarche and the Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee that more live instruction would be beneficial to students of the district during the implementation of hybrid and remote learning due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The petition gained 570 signatures before its closing on Oct. 27 and the following evening Panczyk joined a livestreamed meeting of the school committee to explain the reasoning behind the document. “It had crossed my mind months ago, but I wanted to give it some time and see how the school year started and how it improved as we moved on. After the last (school committee) meeting on Oct. 14, it appeared to me that we have no further steps to improve our school plan and the only way we would have any further steps is if our budget improved so I was left wondering how could we reach our number one goal, which is to be back in person full time, without having any further steps,” Panczyk said.

After talking with family, friends and coworkers Panczyk learned of how other districts in the commonwealth have handled managing both online and in-person learning during the pandemic and she felt other districts were doing better. While she acknowledged that the Dudley-Charlton District was excelling in its own right compared to some district, she felt there was clearly room for improvement and saw the petition as a way for like-minded parents and citizens to voice their concerns as well. She felt a common theme was the need for more live instruction and she and 569 other signatories wanted to express those concerns to school officials as a united group.

Panczyk also seemed to acknowledge that the petition had its fair of naysayers and took the time to defend the calls for more live teaching opportunities while praising the educators who have worked hard to keep the students learning even through the pandemic.

“I do not wish to make any each and every teacher’s job more painful than it already is this year. I understand all the hard work that they are putting into each and every day. I appreciate them and I want them to know that, but my goal is to highlight that we’re missing something. I want to make this year better for everyone, every teacher, every student, and every parent, but first we have to recognize the fact that there is an issue,” said. Panczyk. “I don’t know what the answer is, but I think we need to continue to move forward and keep working towards our number one goal.”

While he did not specifically mention the petition, Superintendent Lamarche did address the call for more live teaching and acknowledged that the district and the world remains in a divisive time where they are still learning what they can or can’t do safely and financially and

how to approach the full return to in-person learning properly.

“Each and every community is going through the same struggle. Everyone, including all of us, want to be back to full in-person learning. Our current learning model makes that transition almost seamlessly with student-teacher classroom assignments and studies. This was purposeful in our panning. What we do not have is widespread approval on how or when this move will occur to full in-person learning,” Superintendent Lamarche said, later adding his own notes of support for educators in the district.

“Unfortunately, as public educators we are an easy target. We work in the public and everyone has an established association to schooling through their own experience and what it was. We will continue to provide stability and the Dudley Charlton Regional School District educators are working extremely hard to ensure each student has the best learning experience available under these circumstances - Dudley Charlton School District educators should continuously be applauded for their fortitude, their experience, their can-do attitude and for seeing each student as an individual through this unprecedented time in our lives.”

WEBSTER POLICE LOG

WEBSTER — The Webster Police Department reported the following arrests during the week of Oct. 25-31.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 26 for Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member.

Kiaralis Nieto, age 28, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 26 in connection with a warrant.

Miguel Antonio Ramirez, age 28, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 26 for Assault & Battery.

Andrew J. Conant, age 32, of Southbridge was arrested on Oct. 27 for Vandalism of Property, a Civil Rights Violation, Larceny in an amount greater than \$1,200, Possession of a Burglary Instrument, and Felony Nighttime Breaking and Entering a Vehicle or Boat.

An adult male whose name has been withheld from publication was arrested on Oct. 28 for being a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Disorderly Conduct, Disturbing the Peace, Carrying a Loaded Firearm Without a License, Possession of Ammunition Without an FID Card, Assault with a Dangerous Weapon, Assault & Battery on a Family or Household Member, Assault & Battery on a Pregnant Woman, and Carrying a Firearm Without a License (second offense).

Hector M. Madera, age 27, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 30 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle, driving an Unregistered Motor Vehicle, and a Number Plate Violation.

Carole A. Carlson, age 55, of Dudley was arrested on Oct. 30 for Operating Under the Influence of Drugs, Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, and a Marked Lanes Violation.

William James Ivett, age 36, of Webster was arrested on Oct. 31 for Disorderly Conduct (subsequent offense), Disturbing the Peace (subsequent offense), and Trespassing.

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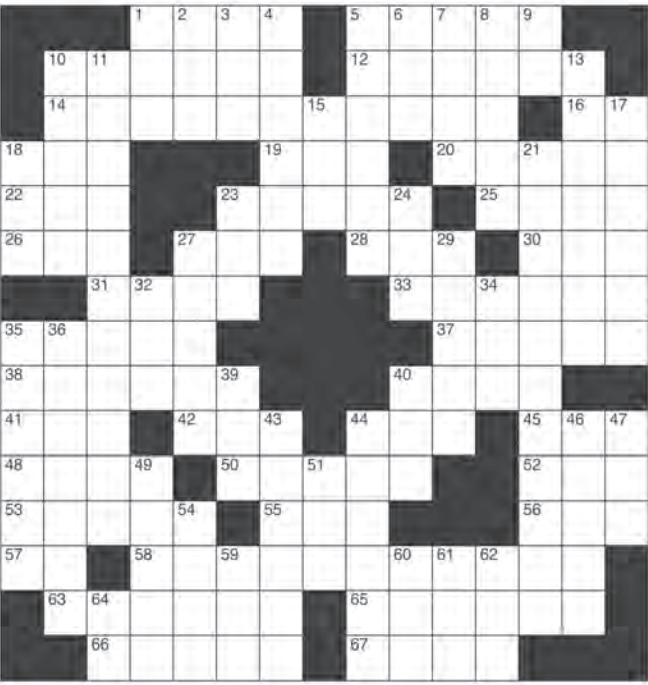
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Upright post on a boat
- 5. Sentimental person
- 10. Native American tribe
- 12. Wear away
- 14. Where you’re going
- 16. Doctor
- 18. Popular Chinese dialect
- 19. One point east of due south
- 20. Northern sea duck
- 22. Note
- 23. Wives (law)
- 25. Trigonometric function
- 26. A way to communicate (abbr.)
- 27. Swiss river
- 28. No (Scottish)
- 30. Commercials
- 31. Large instrument
- 33. ___ Chantilly, ___ de Menthé
- 35. Small, saclike cavities
- 37. High and thin in tone
- 38. Treat extremely well
- 40. Famed track star Usain
- 41. Secure web connection (abbr.)
- 42. Rob of energy
- 44. Paving material
- 45. Cool!
- 48. Tip of Aleutian Islands
- 50. Indicates silence
- 52. Water in the solid state
- 53. Security interests
- 55. Popular hoopster Jeremy
- 56. Shed tears
- 57. Low frequency
- 58. Harmful bacterium
- 63. Common language: lingua ___
- 65. Standards of perfection
- 66. They consist of two parts
- 67. A detailed description of design

CLUES DOWN

- 1. More (Spanish)
- 2. A subdivision of a play
- 3. Japanese title
- 4. More jittery
- 5. Fabric
- 6. Luke’s mentor ___Wan
- 7. Cleaving tool
- 8. Ancient city of Egypt
- 9. 36 inches
- 10. Farewell
- 11. Second to last
- 13. Improved by critical editing
- 15. Defensive weapon (abbr.)
- 17. Fancy attire
- 18. ___ Farrow, actress
- 21. Completely opposed
- 23. Supervises flying
- 24. Pouch
- 27. True firs
- 29. Mistake
- 32. Computing platform (abbr.)
- 34. Snake-like fish
- 35. Greatly horrify
- 36. Despicable person
- 39. Tell on
- 40. Ballplayer’s tool
- 43. Central Brazilian town
- 44. Court game
- 46. Land
- 47. “The Partridge Family” actress Susan
- 49. Retract a statement
- 51. Data executive
- 54. Capital of Yemen
- 59. Portable computer screen material
- 60. Electronic data processing
- 61. “Matt Houston” actor Horsley
- 62. Resinous substance
- 64. Rural delivery



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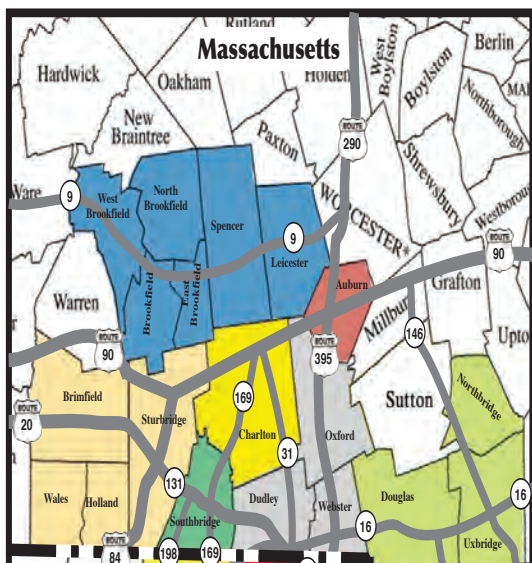
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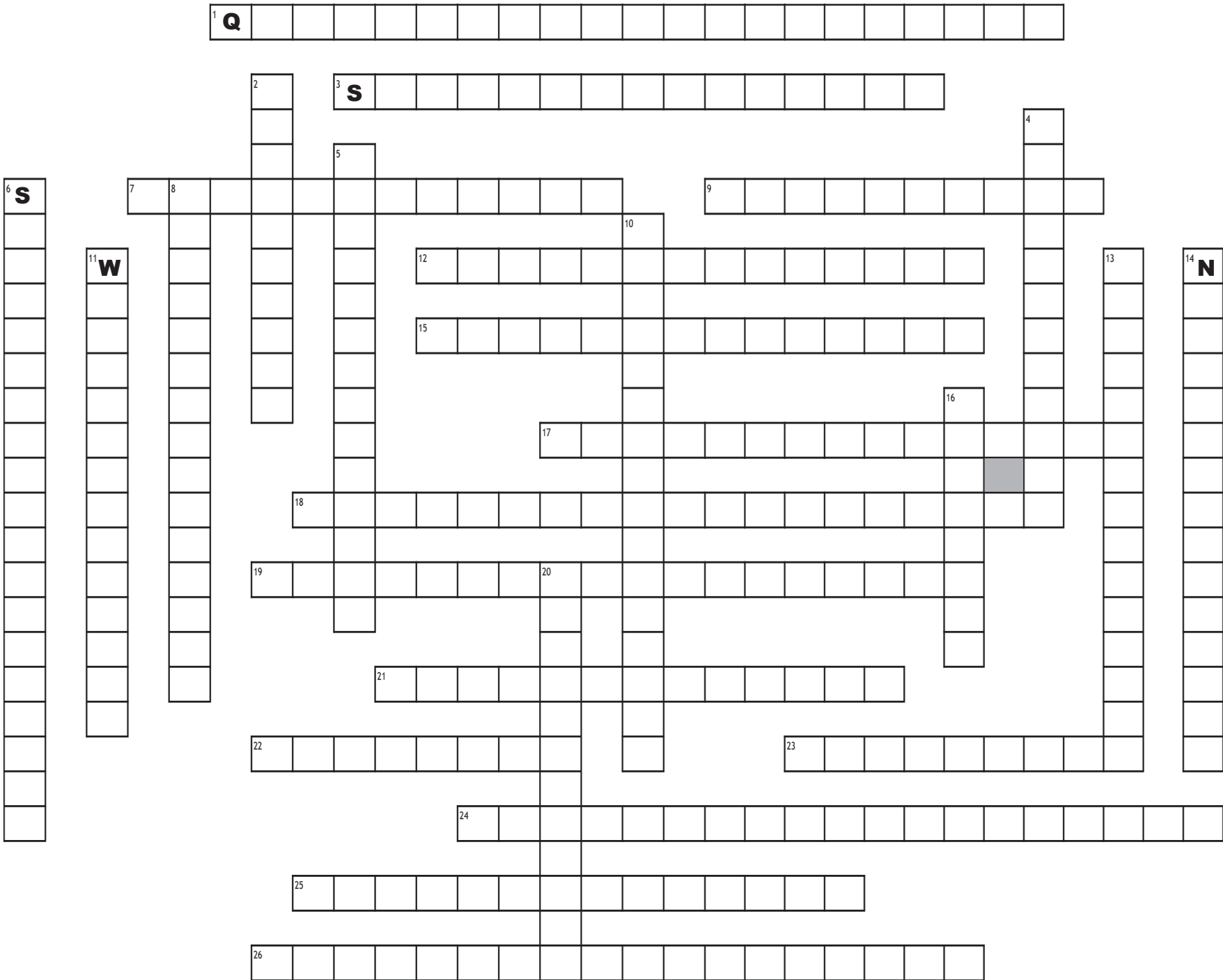
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- 7.small town charm
- 9. Call us today 508-868-4291
- 12. Need to get it done? Call me!
- 15. Advertisers trust us
- 17. Special discounts on new layaways
- 18. We can save you time and money!
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- 21. Best sales experience!
- 22. Yours could be Next
- 23. Buyer and seller representation
- 24. Order online
- 25. 24 Hr. Roadside Assistance
- 26. Cooper Tires Fall Tire Promotion

Down

- 2. Now taking Thanksgiving pie & bread orders
- 4. I'll beat my competitors' prices
- 5. 6 & 12 months financing available
- 6. All instruments fully sterilized
- 8. Country Toys and great gifts
- 10. We will be happy to assist you
- 11. Rental car or truck can be arranged for you
- 13. Always going the extra mile
- 14. Find our BOGO Coupon on our website
- 16. Reporting for Duty!
- 20. ...services starting at less than \$1.50 a day.

3rd Annual ABC'S OF THE SEASONS OCTOBER 30, FALL EDITION

Hint... answers don't always include fall business name.

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Circle which paper you found this in: *Spencer New Leader, Webster Times, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Auburn News, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Southbridge News*

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Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on page 2. Enter for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to one of these ABC businesses by mailing in your completed crossword to **ABC Crossword Puzzle, Stonebridge Press, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550** OR scan & email or take a picture and email it to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by Wednesday, November 18. Random-drawing for winner of all correct entries to be announced in the November 27th issue.

One entry per person.

Please support these ABC's businesses and tell them you saw their ad in your local paper! Good luck!

Nichols announces Cybersecurity Master’s Certificate program

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – Nichols College is rolling out a new graduate program for one of the most in-demand professions of modern society, cybersecurity. With the increased dependence of technology and communication for both private and business use, cybersecurity is a profession that specializes in helping secure private information and server access to prevent sensitive documents or the public image of a company from being compromised. In

October, Nichols College revealed that the school will be offering a new graduate study program offering prospective students the chance to earn a non-technical master certificate in this growing field. “Cyberspace touches every aspect of our personal and professional lives,” said Tom Stewart, Associate Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies in a release from the college. “Today’s leaders must be proactive and proficient in developing risk management strategies to combat cyberthreats which can have cata-

strophic consequences for their own organizations and the global business arena.” The program will teach students about the evolving threats of the digital world and incorporate input from professionals and academic experts to help teach students the foundational skills for the profession including best practices, comprehension and even have them create their own protection plans. The announcement was made in conjunction with MassCyberCenter’s Cybersecurity Month 2020 in October. As part of the announcement

the school also hosted a webinar on Oct. 21 which focused on managing the “silo mentality,” a term used to describe a

reluctance to share information with employees of different divisions in the same company. The panel included experts in

cybersecurity who educated participants in the current landscape and today’s cyberthreats for the digital age.

FYI Tips

** Fat Burning Boost: ! Did you know you can give your body a fat burning boost by increasing your intake of oils like cod liver oil or evening



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

Remember to Drink Coffee!: A cup of Joe can jog your memory, especially if you’re over age 65! In a study, memory performance declined significantly between AM and PM in seniors who didn’t drink coffee or drank decaf. Those who had a cup of the high octane stuff showed no such effect!

** H2O FYI: Hydrogen peroxide is a thrifty alternative to pricey products. Did you know 3% hydrogen peroxide can be used as an effective foot bath for athlete’s foot? Soak feet in one pint of hydrogen peroxide mixed with one gallon of warm water for a half hour each night.

** Great Grapes: Having a bad day? If your anger has you biting people’s heads off, instead bite into a fresh apple handful of grapes! These fruits are rich in pectin, which can reverse the effect anger has on the body, and helps your system return to normal!

** Carpal Tunnel Relief: If you have symptoms of carpal tunnel, it could be the way you use your computer mouse or pad. Relieve symptoms by using your fingers instead of your wrist to control the movement - think piano lessons! And if you are using a mask, try grasping it with the thumb and pinky - it takes the strain off the wrist.

primrose oil? These substances ‘link’ with the fat in your body and help digest the fat better.

** Mighty Minis: Hate working out? The good news is, research suggests that health benefits can just as great from several mini workouts. In fact, exercising as little as ten minutes three times a day has proven to improve cardiovascular health when performed as few as three days per week.

** Tea tip: The virtues of a cup of tea go way beyond taste! A study conducted by Harvard University found that those who drank one or more cups of black tea per day had more than a 40 percent lower risk of having a heart attack compared to non-tea drinkers.

** Wonders of Walking: Walking to “digest your meal” is more than an after dinner pastime. Studies show when you walk within 30 minutes after eating you can increase the amount of calories you burn by as much as 30 per cent! But be sure to avoid caffeinated beverages before you walk. They cause thirst and a loss of bodily fluids.

** Ice is nice: Did you know drinking ice water

can give your diet a jump start. It boosts metabolism, cushions joints, and keeps skin hydrated.

** BION: Here are a couple of “believe it or not” headache remedies that are gaining attention! The next time you get a headache, don’t reach for an aspirin. Instead try drinking a couple of glasses of Gatorade to ease the pain - headache sufferers claim it really works!

Or take a tip from folks who swear dabbing a bit of Ben Gay on your forehead, temples and the back of your neck relieves a headache fast!

** Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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



Heather Wright — Courtesy

A FROSTY HALLOWEEN

Reader Heather Wright braved the chill Halloween morning to capture sunrise over Webster Lake.



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STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

“There are many kinds of strength”

On Nov. 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was en route to give a speech in Dallas, Texas. He was assassinated before reaching his destination. Already written, was a speech he was to deliver at the event.

Here we are 57 years later, reading his words that call for unity and peace. We have taken portions of out due to space, however our hope is that this decades old speech will translate into 2020.

The speech reads as follows: “This Nation’s strength and security are not easily or cheaply obtained, nor are they quickly and simply explained. There are many kinds of strength and no one kind will suffice.

“Ignorance and misinformation can handicap the progress of a city or a company, but they can, if allowed to prevail in foreign policy, handicap this country’s security. In a world of complex and continuing problems, in a world full of frustrations and irritations, America’s leadership must be guided by the lights of learning and reason — or else those who confuse rhetoric with reality and the plausible with the possible will gain the popular ascendancy with their seemingly swift and simple solutions to every world problem.

“There will always be dissident voices heard in the land, expressing opposition without alternative, finding fault but never favor, perceiving gloom on every side and seeking influence without responsibility. Those voices are inevitable. But today other voices are heard in the land — voices preaching doctrines wholly unrelated to reality, wholly unsuited to the sixties, doctrines which apparently assume that words will suffice without weapons, that vituperation is as good as victory and that peace is a sign of weakness.

“We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will ‘talk sense to the American people.’ But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense. And the notion that this Nation is headed for defeat through deficit, or that strength is but a matter of slogans, is nothing but just plain nonsense.

“Above all, words alone are not enough. The United States is a peaceful nation. And where our strength and determination are clear, our words need merely to convey conviction, not belligerence. If we are strong, our strength will speak for itself. If we are weak, words will be of no help.

“I have spoken of strength largely in terms of the deterrence and resistance of aggression and attack. But in today’s world, freedom can be lost without a shot being fired, by ballots as well as bullets. The success of our leadership is dependent upon respect for our mission in the world as well as our missiles — on a clearer recognition of the virtues of freedom as well as the evils of tyranny.

“Finally, it should be clear by now that a nation can be no stronger abroad than she is at home. Only an America which practices what it preaches about equal rights and social justice will be respected by those whose choice affects our future. Only an America which has fully educated its citizens is fully capable of tackling the complex problems and perceiving the hidden dangers of the world in which we live. And only an America which is growing and prospering economically can sustain the worldwide defenses of freedom, while demonstrating to all concerned the opportunities of our system and society.

“My friends and fellow citizens: I cite these facts and figures to make it clear that America today is stronger than ever before. Our adversaries have not abandoned their ambitions, our dangers have not diminished, our vigilance cannot be relaxed. But now we have the military, the scientific, and the economic strength to do whatever must be done for preservation and promotion of freedom.

“The strength will never be used in pursuit of aggressive ambitions — it will always be used in pursuit of peace. It will never be used to promote provocations — it will always be used to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes.

“We, in this country, in this generation, are — by destiny rather than by choice — the watchmen on the walls of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we may be worthy of our power and responsibility, that we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint, and that we may achieve in our time and for all time the ancient vision of ‘peace on earth, good will toward men.’ That must always be our goal, and the righteousness of our cause must always underlie our strength. For as was written long ago: ‘except the Lord keep the city, the watchmen waketh but in vain.’”

VIEWPOINT

How we face the future without fear? Together!



BEYOND THE PEWS

By FR. LUKE A. VERONIS
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH, WEBSTER

In the midst of these angst-filled final days of our presidential election, our society is filled with fear. Fear about the future. Fear about the opposing presidential candidate. Fear about those who don’t see the world as we do. Fear of the strangers. Fear of the foreigner and immigrant. Fear of the extremists, whether right-wing or left-wing. Fear of our former friends who have now become our enemies because they are voting differently than ourselves.

Fear threatens to overwhelm us and endangers to divide us more and more from one another. It jeopardizes our sense of community and love for one another, leading us to bunker down into our own self-made shelters with people who are like minded. We keep away from the other, whom we fear. We separate ourselves from those whom we feel are different, and thus dangerous.

Yet, fear is not from God! When we allow fear to control us, we are betraying our faith in the Almighty. St. John tells us in Holy Scripture, “Perfect love casts out fear.” So, why do we allow fear to eclipse love in our hearts. Here lies the answer to overcoming fear! Here lies the path for a hope-filled future.

By turning to one another in love, by sticking together with one another, even with those who not like-minded, we can overcome fear. Why can’t we focus on all that unites us as people instead of on what divides us? We are social beings who were meant to journey through life together. When we are with one another, we are emboldened and overcome every fear. When we stay isolated, we magnify the false caricatures of the fearsome other, feeding our fears and anxiety.

Just the other day, a dear friend of mine sent me a TED talk by Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, the former Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations in Great Britain and an international religious leader, philosopher and spiritual writer. He offered a fabulous talk entitled “How We Face the Future Without Fear, TOGETHER.” I sent it out in my daily email and posted it on facebook, recommending everyone to listen to it. I’ll offer a brief summary of what he said because it’s central to what we teach in our faith!

Rabbi Sacks noted the obvious, that our society continues to promote a path of extreme individualism which leads to excessive isolation. From our time-consuming preoccupation with social media to our obsession with self-help, self-esteem, self-value, self-care and the all fixation on the infamous selfies, we keep our

focus inward turned.

Separation from the other is fertile ground for fear. When we stand together, we embolden one another and face whatever the future brings with courage and hope. When we isolate and stay alone, focusing on self, real and imaginary fears flood our minds and threaten our beings.

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks suggested that we find a solution to such fears by increasing three things – the “us” of relationship, the “us” of identity, and the “us” of responsibility. Basically, he notes that society promotes, and we embrace, too much of “I” and too little of “we.”

We are social beings. We are meant to journey through life together. When we isolate ourselves, or when we allow our ego to take precedence over our communal identity, we all suffer. I love a beautiful African proverb that says, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” To overcome whatever fears threaten society, we can overcome them together!

How do we increase the “us” of relationships? By not isolating ourselves with only those who think like us, look like us, agree with us, and act like us. Here is the grave threat that social media and partisan news stations promote – surrounding us with only like-minded people. This leads to isolation in our worldview and extremism. Why do we fear those who disagree with us or those who are different from us? Don’t we realize that people not like us can help us grow in new ways? By being challenged, by listening to views opposite our own, by treating people with respect even when we vehemently disagree with them, we expand our minds, we learn new ideas, and we discover that these other people are still people, just like us. We are a part of the same human family, who have many of the same end goals, even if we may disagree on the path that leads to these goals. We need to appreciate the “us” of relationships!

Then there’s the “us” of identity. Who are we? How do we identify ourselves? Do we identify ourselves in too narrow of a way and thus limit our connection with others, or we can identify ourselves in the broader picture of life and realize the common identity we have with one another.

For example, are we simply Greek-Americans? Or

white Americans? Or diverse Americans of all colors, ethnicities, beliefs, and practices?

Do we limit our identity as Orthodox Christians? Or are we a part of the 2.5 billion Christians in the world? And can we even see all people of the world as children of God, each one created in His image and likeness just as we are?

Are we satisfied to limit ourselves to our own political party? Are we simply Republican or Democrat? Liberal or Conservative? Trump or Biden supporters? Or are we neighbors and co-workers and Americans living in the same country who all desire a common good for all people.

Can we be courageous and bold enough to not limit the “us” of our identity and instead encounter the beauty and richness of expanding our identity by sharing the lives, listening to the stories, and discovering the treasures of those different from ourselves.

Finally, there is the “us” of responsibility. The US Constitution begins with the words “We the People.” Our Faith teaches us that we are our brother’s and sister’s keeper. We share a collective responsibility for our shared future. God works in synergy with us, and He expects us to work together. No politician or individual will solve our problems. We have to do it together. We have to discover the politics of our communal destiny. We will overcome the fears of our divisive spirit by seeing one another as our colleagues, our co-workers, our brothers and sisters regardless of where we disagree with one another. Together we are strong to face life’s challenges. Divided we are weak and fear will overwhelm us.

Rabbi Sacks ended this brilliant talk by highlighting, “A nation is strong when it cares for the weak. It becomes rich when it cares for the poor. It becomes invulnerable when it cares for the vulnerable. That is what makes great nations... Thus, I challenge you to do a search and replace operation on the text of your mind. Whenever you encounter the word “self” “substitute the word “other.” Self-help becomes other-help. Self-esteem becomes other-esteem. And if we do that, we will begin to feel the power of one the most moving sentences of all religious literature – “Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For you are with me.” We can face the future without any fear so long as we won’t face it alone.” God is with us. May we also be with one another.

Keep your yard debris off the road



CHIEF’S CORNER
STEVE WOJNAR

The Fall season means many people will be cleaning up their yards and driveways from leaves, sticks, etc. in preparation for the winter. It is crucial to clean up when finished, dispose of this waste properly, and keep it out of the road. I often receive complaints about this and wanted to remind everyone of this issue.

Whenever people deposit yard waste, dirt, or other material from their property onto the road, or that of another person, problems can arise. Several state and local laws may apply in these instances. One of the more serious state laws covers illegal dumping of “trash” which is found under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 270 Section 16. Although this law may only appear to apply to “litter,” it is somewhat all encompassing. It includes items such as “trash, bottles, cans, refuse, rubbish, garbage, debris, scrap, waste, or other material of any kind.” Even though yard waste may not be specifically mentioned, it could apply in some instances. Penalties and fines are particularly steep. First offense fines can be up to \$5,000 and second or subsequent fines can be as high as \$15,000. In addition, people can be responsible for cost of the cleanup or removal.

Another violation could fall under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 266 Section 35 entitled “Throwing or Dropping Objects onto Any Way.” It states in part, “Whoever willfully or negligently drops, throws or otherwise releases any object, missile or other article onto any way...so that the lives or safety of the public may be endangered...” Even though this section generally applies to act of the throwing of objects such as bottles, rocks, snowballs, etc. it may be applicable when it comes to the use of a leaf blower. Intentionally blowing debris into the roadway may be included if, the act in any way, endangers the lives or safety of the public. This will certainly be determined on a case by case basis. People in violation of this law could be punished by a fine of up to one hundred dollars and or a maximum of up to one year in prison.

Whenever people blow debris or deposit things on the road, it can be dangerous. People may be injured by flying objects. Property, including cars, can also be damaged. Road debris is particularly dangerous for those riding motorcycles and bicycles. Always be aware of anything you are pushing out toward the road. If something does go into the street, it will be your obligation to clean it up. Your assistance is important toward preventing accidents and injuries as well as keeping our streets clean.

As a reminder to all, please remove all political signs from your yard promptly after the election. These can be a hazard if left in place too long. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

In addition to the Coronavirus pandemic, there is a great deal of turmoil taking place in our state and around the country. We continue to serve the people of Dudley and work with the community to improve the quality of life for everyone. I continue to thank the men and women from my department for their continued dedicated service to the Town of Dudley during these trying times. Thanks also go out to the many Police Officers, Fire and Emergency Services members, public works, government and all other “essential” personnel for their continued hard work and service. We greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department, 71 West Main St., Dudley, MA 01571 or email at swojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Veterans Day events canceled in Dudley

To the Editor:

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and the restrictions we are following, especially in light of the recent upgrade of the Towns of Dudley and Webster to the Red Zone List with the rising numbers of infections, we will not be able to honor our veterans this year with a Veterans Day Parade or other associated activities. It deeply saddens me to once again cancel a Veterans Day Parade as we did for Memorial Day last May 30. It is all of our fervent hopes that next year will be a year devoid of pandemic concerns and much camaraderie together in person.

Just a few words on the meaning of Veterans Day. Veterans Day honors all those Americans who have served our country in the military in war or peace. They are both dead and alive, although the day is largely intended to thank the living veterans for their service and sacrifices made to the United States of America.

“The veterans are the real one percent who secured every freedom for every other American. They are the one percent who chose a harder path while others didn’t, and our military

personnel are the one percent who are still in the fight — in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other hotspots around the world,” I will add.

“America was built on the service and sacrifice of many Americans, but our continued safety, security and freedoms fall squarely on the shoulders of those who wear the uniform. I salute all those who served and sacrificed for our great nation, and their families, too.”

I do recommend that all Americans who are lucky enough to know a veteran or have had a veteran in their family, send a card, make a phone call, and just find some way to express your thanks for their unselfish service to keep our country free.

Please keep all veterans in mind during this Holiday. Stay safe.

Thank you,

STEPHEN P. ROGERSON
VETERANS’ SERVICES OFFICER
DUDLEY

Archers bring down some big bucks



Art Syms with his son Mikee and dog Sky after a pheasant hunt at the Whitinsville Fish & Game Club last weekend.



Cheryl Weed with her 11-point buck.

Archery deer hunters are starting to harvest some impressive bucks, as shown in this week’s column with Cheryl Weed and her 11-point buck, taken in Rhode Island, as the rut kicks into high gear. Numerous big bucks have also been spotted by hunters that failed to get a good shot, and passed the deer up in hopes of seeing him again. Making a bad shot will often result in a lost deer, which is the last thing any ethical deer hunter wants. Unfortunately, not all archers are a Robin Hood, and do make bad shots even though they thought they had a good shot, that would result in a harvested deer. Unfortunately, the legislature and Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife failed the sportsmen again this year, without the passage of a crossbow bill.

It is a no brainer! Almost every state now has a crossbow bill, allowing any licensed

hunter to use the extremely accurate device for harvesting deer and wild turkey in an ethical way, should be the number one priority of Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife, but they fail to make the proper decisions when it comes to passing a Cross Bow bill in Massachusetts.

Every year, the Massachusetts Sportsman’s Council and the Massachusetts Worcester County League of Sportsmen hold an annual banquet to recognize top legislators and Fish & Wildlife officials for their untiring efforts to pass legislative bills that are in the sportsmen’s interest. Hopefully, one or two of them will be recognized for their effort in pas-



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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sage of a crossbow bill in Massachusetts at this spring’s annual banquet. It is long overdue and is the right thing to do!

Local sporting goods stores that are barely holding on to the small Bait & Tackle shops that deal in the sale of bow hunting equipment would also benefit from the passage of a bow hunting bill in Massachusetts. The increased revenue could save them from going out of business. Sportsmen with disabilities are allowed to use a crossbow in Massachusetts, and it is time to allow any licensed hunter to use one. Come on, guys, let’s get it done!

Pheasant hunting was great until this past snow-

storm made hunting conditions crazy. This past Saturday made spotting a flushed pheasant almost impossible for both man & dog. Fortunately, things improved as the bright sunshine melted the snow from the trees, making visibility and hunting a lot better. The state will be stocking birds right up to Thanksgiving and reports of some impressive birds being stocked this year, was good news for local bird hunters. This week’s picture shows Art Simms of Uxbridge with his son Mike, pheasant hunting at the Whitinsville Fish and Game Club last week. Art owns a Pointing Griffon breed dog named “Sky” for hunting birds. The dog is four years old, and is doing some amazing things in the field. Solid points are always a great thing to watch in the field.

Tautog fishing remained very good in both Massachusetts & Rhode Island with some

bait shops running out of crabs, which is the top bait for catching tautog this time of year. There were still many seabass being caught in Rhode Island waters as of this past week.

Trout fishing at locally stocked waters have numerous anglers catching some nice trout, with reports of some impressive brown trout in the 18-inch class being caught at Wallum Lake in Douglas this past week. A few smallmouth bass were also reported at Wallum Lake. With the weather warming up this week, it will be a great time to get some last-minute fishing in before it really gets cold.

Ice fishing cannot be too far away, at least that is what many anglers are hoping for. The last few years of ice fishing were extremely poor, but things may get better this year. At least that is what many anglers are planning on. A day on the ice with family and friends doing some ice fishing

and gathering around a fire eating some venison, is a good way to enjoy the outdoors. Chasing some flags as they pop on ice fishing gear signaling a bite, will keep you warm, and landing that big one is a good way to get some exercise.

With the cold weather on our doorstep, it would be wise to have a talk with your young family members about staying away from ice covered rivers and ponds. Every year, some family loses a family member after falling through thin ice. It is never too early to have the discussion about the dangers of thin ice.

Practice social distancing and wear a mask whenever possible. It is going to get worse before it gets better, but we Americans have gone through hard times before, and we will survive this threat to our health and our future.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Are your pocket watches valuable?

We often come across pocket watches when handling local estates. Some can be worth as little as a dollar while a rare one could sell for millions. In this column, I’ll offer a brief history on pocket watches and some information on evaluating your pocket watches.

A German locksmith named Peter Henlein is credited with inventing the pocket watch in the early 1500’s, according to Britannica. The early watches were large and didn’t keep very accurate time. An article in the Atlantic quotes a passage from Alexis McCrossen’s book “Marking Modern Times: A History of Clocks, Watches, and Other Timekeepers in American Life.” She writes that in the 1700’s “people want to start carrying the time around with them; they’re not content just to look at the public clocks in what-

ever village or town they might end up in.” Improved time-keeping became a necessity. In 1843, elections in Pottsville, Pennsylvania were disputed because the towns people didn’t synchronize their clocks and the time to close the polls was disputed, according to the Smithsonian Magazine. The Atlantic reported that the “advent of the railroad, factories, and electricity, and the standardization of time zones in Europe and the United States—increased demand around the world for watches.” Factories in Waltham, Mass. and elsewhere produced watches to meet the demand. The Atlantic reported that “on July 9, 1916, The



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WAYNE TUISKULA

is the material that the case is made from. The most valuable cases are typically made from gold. Most gold cases produced in the United States were 14-karat or 10-karat. James Boss invented gold-filled cases, which were created from sheets of gold bonded to another metal. Gold filled cases have much less gold than solid 10-karat or 14-karat

cases, but they have more gold than gold plated cases, which have only a small percentage. Cases were also made from sterling silver (0.925 percent silver) and coin silver (nine tenths of a percent). Cases marked silveroid, silverine and oresilver contain no actual silver.

After a train collision in 1891, the railroads created pocket watch standards in 1893 which required watches to have at least 17 jewels. Watches needed to be accurate within 30 seconds per week. The Santa Fe Railroad later increased the minimum to 19 jewels. Usually, the more jewels in a pocket watch, the greater the accuracy and value. Additional factors affecting value are the age and condition of the watch.

Recent auction results show average gold-filled 17 jewel, 19 jewel and 21 jewel pocket watches selling in the \$100 range.

An older key wind gold-filled Waltham watch in excellent condition brought \$850 in October. A 14-karat gold watch by the Columbus Watch Co. in its presentation box with a fob (chain) fetched \$2,000 last month.

Some pocket watches bring even greater sums at auction. A rare A. Lange & Sohne 18-karat 1903 gold German watch with an enamel dial and enamel design on the case sold for 440,000 (\$513,00 U.S.) in 2016 and a Patek Philippe Grande Complication 44 jewel 18-karat gold went for 520,000 (\$607,000 U.S.) in 2014. Another Patek Philippe sold even better in 2014: The Henry Graves Supercomplication sold for \$24 million. I’m sure the winning bidder will never be late for any appointments.

We have a pocket watch collection, along with gold estate jewelry,



sterling silver, art, a Red Cross poster collection and many other antiques and collectibles from New England estates in our online auction ending November 17th. Visit www.centralmassauctions.com for a link to this online sale.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/ Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com.

The death of iceberg lettuce

I think we’ve heard enough about politics for a lifetime. I know I have, so I think it’s important to talk about something totally different but almost as important ...

It was here, then gone. It was everywhere, then vanished off our plates.

I was always a big salad eater. Give me a pile of iceberg lettuce drenched in thousand island dressing and I was satisfied. Add red onion, bacon bits and boiled egg and I was delighted. I could easily make a meal of a salad. The all-important base to this delicious dish was lettuce ... real lettuce ... the only lettuce ... iceberg lettuce.

I miss it. Who took it and where did they put it? Why is it gone?

Finding a salad of iceberg lettuce these days is like searching for the Holy Grail. I know it exists but for some reason, it’s now hidden away. Instead, we are left with what looks like inedible debris, discarded when weeding a garden. As if someone decided to keep the weeds and discard the produce, iceberg has disappeared. Thistle, twigs, and a little bark thrown in for texture has replace the traditional lettuce. But weeds? That’s not a salad. And what is Kale anyway? Arugula schmugula! I wasn’t asked if I wanted it. One day I had a plate full of beautiful iceberg lettuce, and



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• • • • •
GARY W.
MOORE

the next day, unattractive greens that taste worse than they look took its place. How do we reverse this trend? Who hatched this dastardly plot?

While lamenting the disappearance of my beloved iceberg lettuce, someone said, “It’s gone because it was nothing. Do you know iceberg lettuce has negative calories? It takes more calories to digest and burn them in our bodies than they provide!”

That’s a negative? Really? You mean by eating iceberg lettuce you can lose unwanted pounds without dieting? I thought most people ate salad because they wanted to lose weight. And if iceberg has negative calories, how does that make it bad? Doesn’t that make it a desired miracle food?

For me, iceberg is a tasteless delivery system that moved dressing from my plate into my mouth. It was there to add bulk and make me full, while transferring dressing, bacon, and other delightful treats onto my tongue. But now, I’m stuck with a bitter and fibrous mixture of unidentifiable leaves that add calories and interfere with the tastes that I love. You can’t pour enough dressing on this stuff to kill the bitter taste.

I can still buy iceberg in my produce department and do, but when dining out, I want iceberg.

So, tonight, I’m in Iowa City, Iowa for my can-

cer immunotherapy tomorrow at the Holden Cancer Center. Arlene and I stepped out to a restaurant that was highly recommended. There wasn’t much on the menu that caught my eye. I ordered a gyro sandwich. Normally it’s a lamb and beef combination with onion and tomato, covered in Tzatziki sauce on pita bread. It’s a simple sandwich that I think is hard to mess up ... but it happened. It came as a wrap that was stuffed full of various greens looking more like the above noted garden weeds. I had two bites and pushed it aside. It was awful. Like most unwanted vegetation, these weeds apparently are pervasive. They are spreading out of salads bowls and are becoming infested in sandwiches. What next? In our ice cream?

Someone must stop the madness before it’s too late.

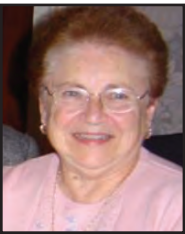
I’ve learned in life that fads and styles come and go and are usually cyclical. If so, I’m eagerly awaiting the return of real lettuce. I’m hoping for the best. My fingers are crossed. Is it coming back? Will it ever?

I can only hope ...
#SaveIcebergLettuce!

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.gary-wmoore.com.

OBITUARIES

Rita E. R. Jacques, 89



DUDLEY – Rita E. R. (Ethier) Jacques, 89, died Tuesday, October 27, 2020 in Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester. She leaves her husband of 69 years, Leonard P. “Lenny” Jacques; a daughter, Dianne E. Smith of Dudley; a son, Norman L. Jacques and his companion Judith Vokes of Southbridge; 2 grandchildren, Philip A. Jacques of Florida and Michael L. Jacques of Southbridge; a sister, Lorraine Rich and her husband Read of Brunswick, ME; a half-brother, Errol Ethier of Leicester; her sister-in-law, Joanne Maguire of Andover; her former son-in-law, Mark E. Smith of Sutton; cousins, nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by 2 sisters, Yvette Hartley and Edna Ethier and by a brother, Ronald Ethier. She was born on July 10, 1931, the daughter of Rosario and Corinne (Forcier) Ethier and was raised by her uncle and aunt Noe and Emma Rose (Forcier) Ethier after her parents died when she was young. She graduated from the former Saint Anne’s Academy in Marlborough. She lived in Webster for most of her life before moving to Joshua Place in Dudley several years ago. Mrs. Jacques first worked as a tele-

phone operator for the former New England Telephone. She then was a pharmacy tech at the former Tonylea Pharmacy on East Main Street. Known as the “Nipmuck Lady,” she retired as a clerk from Nipmuck Liquors on Thompson Road in 2009. She was a communicant of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Webster and a member and past president of its Ladies of Saint Anne. Rita was instrumental in organizing church bazaars and festivals for many years. She enjoyed cake decorating and baked wedding cakes for many local people. The family would like to thank Rita’s caretaker, Lola, who cared for her lovingly and was always there for her. Her funeral was held Monday, November 2, from the Sitkowski, Malboeuf & Hickey Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster, with a Mass at 10:00 AM in Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 16 East Main Street, Webster. Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Webster. Visitation was held from 3:00 to 5:00 Sunday, November 1, in the funeral home. Covid guidelines will be in place and everyone is asked to wear a mask. Flowers may be sent or donations be made to Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 18 East Main Street, Webster, MA 01570.

Isabelle Rulli



Isabelle Rulli passed away peacefully on Thursday, October 22, 2020. She was predeceased by her loving husband Louie Rulli. She leaves behind her son David Pelletier, her grandson Keith Pelletier, her two great grandsons Patrick and Jasper and many other friends and family.

Isabelle worked at American Optical and Steven’s Linen for many years. Upon retirement she loved spending time with her family and had special enjoyment from her morning coffee klatch at Honey Dew. She will be missed by all. A private service will be held in her loving memory at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to Saint Jude’s Children Hospital.

Catherine Polis, 90



OXFORD – Catherine (Reilly) Polis, 90, of 14 Walnut Street, Oxford passed away peacefully in her sleep Wednesday, October 21, 2020, in her home with the assistance of Overlook Masonic Hospice. She was predeceased by her husband of 65 years, George T. (Mooney) Polis. Catherine was raised in Worcester, MA with her five siblings and schooled in nursing and business. She and George had 6 children together: predeceased by David, Susan, Mary, and Rick. She is survived by her daughter Christine and her son Bill. She was a truly heroic grandmother with 13 grandchildren and 12

great-grandchildren. She adored her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoyed spending time taking care of them, attending their games and events, and devoting free time to her family. She was a loyal friend and family leader who volunteered to help others when they were sick or in need. She loved birds such as cardinals and blue jays, listening to music, tanning on the beach, and traveling the country with her husband George and their many peers. Her family is at peace knowing she is together again with George. She certainly made her mark on this world, and her soul will rest in eternal peace. For safety, a celebration of life service will be held at a later time after the pandemic.

Nellie Ferrell McKinney Martin, 79



DUDLEY – Nellie Ferrell McKinney Martin, 79, passed away on Monday October 19, 2020 while at the Harrington Hospital in Southbridge. Being predeceased by her late husband, William Martin, Nellie is survived her son John Howard McKinney of PA; five daughters: Lorraine Yurkervicius and her husband Paul of North Grosvenordale, CT, Linda Lewis and her companion Ronald Mongeau of Southbridge, Caroline Sue Belanger and her husband John of Webster, Rhonda McKinney of Dudley, and Sherry Martin and her husband Tim of Rogers, CT; her brother Emmett Ferrell of Austinville, VA; her sister Jeannette Ferrell Tuff and her husband Phil of Albuquerque, New Mexico; her sister-in-law Dolly Barry of Cleveland,

Ohio; she also leaves many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives and friends, especially her dear friend Lorraine Kaul of Rhode Island; she was predeceased by her sister Diane Ferrell Green. Nellie was born in Hewett, West Virginia daughter of the late Howard and Mary (White) Ferrell; she worked as a weaver for over forty years and greatly enjoyed making quilts, playing guitar, and going treasure hunting. Nellie was always happiest when she was in the company of her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik, 48 School Street Webster, MA. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences or light a candle in remembrance of Nellie.

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to obits@stonebridgepress.news. Deadline is Monday noon for Friday publication.

LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO20P2962EA
Estate of:
Christopher Collier
Date Of Death: 03/06/2020
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Bonnie Collier of Branford CT** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Bonnie Collier of Branford CT has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
November 6, 2020

THE TOWN OF DUDLEY
Dudley Historical Commission
The Dudley Historical Commission is in receipt of an application for a demolition permit for 134 Center Road, Dudley, MA 01571
Dated September 21, 2020
A public hearing will be held as per section 12.04.00 of the Dudley MA Demolition Delay Bylaw, at the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01517
On (day) Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 7:15 pm, in Room 321A.
“Within forty five (45) days of the Commission’s receipt of a copy of the application for a demolition permit, the Commission shall hold a public hearing on such application, and shall make a determination as to whether the struc-

ture is a significant structure under one or more criteria set forth in sections 12.05.00a, and 12.05.00b. The Commission shall give written notice of the time and place of the hearing, not less than seven (7) days prior to the hearing, to the owner by certified mail, and by posting and by publication once in a local newspaper. The Commission may conduct a site visit prior to the hearing.”
Respectfully,
David Proulx, Secretary
Dudley Historical Commission
November 6, 2020

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. WO20P3009EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
William J DeVito
Date of Death: 07/30/2010
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Karen S Ammerman of Sarasota FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Karen S Ammerman of Sarasota FL** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **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 11/24/2020.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 26, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 6, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO20P2921GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
Tiana Lynn Toohill of East Douglas, MA Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **10/14/2020** by **Mary Toohill of East Douglas MA** will be held **11/17/2020 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing** Located **Worcester Probate and Family Court**
2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney.

If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests.
THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: October 20, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 6, 2020

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. W020C0342CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Christopher Paul Lugo, Jr.
A **Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Christopher Paul Lugo, Jr. of Webster MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Christopher Michael Lefebvre**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/17/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 16, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 6, 2020

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PAY NOTHING FOR 2 YEARS¹



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It's almost like getting FREE windows and doors for TWO YEARS!¹
Replace your windows and doors this holiday season, and you'll pay nothing until November 2022.¹ It's a gift to yourself that won't put a dent in your wallet this time of year.

Inferior vinyl windows can cost you more in the long run.
Choose a poor-quality vinyl window and you'll be searching for another Black Friday window sale in a few years! Take advantage of this sale on our Fibrex® windows, and you'll be set for decades!*

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We handle the entire process—from selling to installation to the warranty—on our windows and doors, eliminating the middleman. And know that we've adjusted our operations to serve you in the **safest** way possible.

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For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/12/2020. You must set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 24 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/1/2020 and 12/12/2020. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$75 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details.

Gus Steeves

TRUNK OR TREAT IN WEBSTER

WEBSTER – Covid didn't stop the ghouls and ghosts from descending on Memorial Beach last week, as the town hosted a stripped-down Trunk or Treat. A few hundred people turned out despite the day's drizzle, which had largely let up by showtime.



Megan Walker, Yesenia Negrón and Marisol González ham it up at the Masis Staffing trunk.



Kloie Torres and Robin Potter are the kind of first responders you really don't want to see in an emergency.



Anyone remember this game? Armani Márquez-Chaves and Amaryllis Chaves portray on of the 1980s' favorite video games, Pac-Man.



Elvis isn't dead, but he ain't quite alive either...



Jessica Phifer-Patterson of Mass Best Academy of Dance had to do a little dancing of her own to stay warm. (Maybe that's what killed the skeleton on the ground?)



et another 1980s flashback – Mario!



Princesses and cops line up for candy at the Webster Police trunk.



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Listings Always Needed – We're Always Busy Selling!



WEBSTER – 20 Kunkel Ave! **SUNNY SHORES!** First Time Offered! 8 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bath Colonial! Featuring an Appliance Eat-in Cabinet Packed Kitchen! Formal Dining Room! 1st Floor Family Room w/Hardwood Floor! 1st Floor Half Bath w/Laundry! Gleaming Hardwood Staircase to the 2nd Floor w/4 Bedrooms! Master w/ Master Bath & Walk-in Closet! Many Recent Updates including Roof, Central Air, Hot Water Heater, Dishwasher & Refrigerator! Back Deck Overlooks Large Fenced Yard! 7 Zone Irrigation System! Farmer's Porch! Shed! 2 Car Garage w/Openers! This Home has Everything You Need and Then Some! Expandable Basement! Desirable Neighborhood w/Webster Lake Beach & Boat Ramp Access Nearby! Convenient to Route 395! **\$369,900.00**

CHARLTON – 64 Bond Rd! Gorgeous 2,800' 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Contemporary Ranch set on a Professionally Landscaped 1.49 Acres w/Natural Stone Walls! Quality Craftsmanship Throughout! Featuring a Spacious Granite Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets & Hardwood Flrs! Formal Dining Rm! Spacious Frplc Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceilings, Built-in Bookcases, an Open Flr Plan for All Your Entertaining Needs! Capacious Master Bdrm Suite w/Master Bath & Huge Office! Mostly Finished Walk-out Lower Level Featuring a Large Exercise Rm, Bar Area, Plenty of Storage & 3rd Garage! Unfinished Bonus Rm Over the 2 Car Attached Garage! Private Back Yard for Entertaining w/Multi Level Decks and New Patio! Listed by Another, SOLD by C21 Lake Realty! **\$535,000.00**

DUDLEY – 26 River St! 6 Room Colonial! Granite Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets, SS Appliances, Cathedral Ceiling w/Ceiling Fan & Hardwood Floor! Dining Area & Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! 2 Granite Vanity Bathrooms! 3 Seasons Porch! Deck! Listed by Another, SOLD by C21 Lake Realty! **\$313,000.00**

DOUGLAS – 102 SE Main St! Start Packing! Spacious 9 Rm Colonial! 2.23 Acres! Center Island Granite Kit w/Soft Close Cabs, SS Appliances! Slider to 24' Deck! Open Floor Plan! Hickory Wood Floors throughout the Kit, Din & Liv Rms, all w/Recessed Lighting! 1st Flr Office or Possible 4th Bdrm w/Oak Hrdwd Flr! Full Bath in the Hall! 2nd Flr w/1 Dble Vanity Bdrm & 3 Comfortable Bdrms, all w/Beautiful Wood Laminate Flrs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Skylight, Ceiling Fan, Bay Window overlooking the Back Yard and a Master Bath! Lower Level w/2 Finished Rms, Utility Rm w/Laundry and Half Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Recent C/Air, Heat & Roof! 24x26 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Walum Lake Beach! **\$379,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 112 Gore Rd! **NORTH POND!** Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**

HOLDEN – 315 Holden St! 6 Rm Ranch! Meticulously Maintained! 2 Spacious Bdrms, Full Tiled Bath & 1 Car Garage! Move In Ready! Granite Oak Cabinet Kit w/Tiled Back Splash & JennAir Stove! Frplc Liv Rm! Fam Rm! Gleaming Hrdwds! Perfect Yard w/Major Landscaping this Year! New Roof 2019! **\$344,900.00**

SHREWSBURY – Waterfront – Flint Pond w/Direct Boating Access to Lake Quinsigamond! The Quiet of Flint, All the Action of Quinsig! Privacy Galore on Sargents Island – 4.27 Acres – 2,000' Waterfront! Beautiful Sunrises & Sunsets! Looking for a Getaway, Principal Residence or Second Home, Winters in Florida, Summers on the Island! Tons of Potential, Do a Little or Do a Lot! 4+ Rm, 1 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath "A" Frame with the Ability to Finish the Walk-out Lower Level, add a Family Rm, Bdrm, Bathrm! Nature Abounds, Visited by Deer, Fox, Eagles & More! In Time for Summer! **\$579,900.00**

GRAFTON – 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3 Acres! 4 Comfortable Bdrms & 2 Full Bthrms! Freshly Painted, Floors Recently Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stove! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom out to the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 5 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! Newer Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank installed! Title V in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$949,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,900.00**



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Featured New Listings!

WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



Quintessential Woodstock Farmhouse w/ Spectacular views of Pond, Detached Studio Building! 2.5 Acres, Prof. Landscaped, 5 Bedrooms, Fireplaced Dining, library/Music room, Master Bedroom, 2 Full Baths! Renovated Kitchen, Upstairs, 4 Bedrooms w/Full Bath. **New Price \$399,900.**

WEBSTER - 21 3RD STREET UNIT: B



Condominium - Living leisurely! 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath (including master suite) home. Freshly painted! Recessed lighting, gas fireplace, and sliding doors, to beautiful balcony. Walkout basement! built-in outdoor grilling spot. Easy access to I-95. **\$224,900**

THOMPSON - 452 FAYBURN ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!
Impressive Gambrel Colonial! 2,343 SF, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 1st Flr Master BR Suite! Master bath w/whirlpool tub & shower. Country Home on 2.41+/- PRIVATE Acres! Cathedral wood ceilings! Granite counter-tops, stainless appliances, & ceramic tile floors! 2nd Flr - 2 bed rooms & full bath, lot/great room w/balcony! Over-sized 3 car, detached garage, w/2nd story room! TRULY A FAR-ABOVE PLACE NEARBY! **\$398,500.**

DANIELSON CT- 52 TAFT STREET



SORRY, SOLD!
Spacious Ranch, 1520+/- Sq Ft 8 room 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Baths. Hardwood Floors throughout. Fireplace family room. FHW/OIL Heat. - New Furnace, Windows, Also, recent Asphalt Driveway! Over sized Garage! 1/2 Acre Lot. Dead end road. Close to I-395! **\$255,500.**

WEBSTER - 195-199 THOMPSON RD



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE! APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONTAGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 A/K/A THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMPS & TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS! PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS I-395! 48'X80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,680 SF TOTAL! FULL LOWER LEVEL USE & DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH EXPOSURE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?! **\$600,000.**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



ON DEPOSIT
Estate Sale! **LOCATION, LOCATION! Scenic Upper Gore Rd! Amazing View of Beautiful Webster Lake!** Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Common Bathrm, Master Bedroom & Master Bath - Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level, 1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room w/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground Pool! **\$319,900.**

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Oxford - 4 Leicester St. - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$89,900**
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **NEW PRICE \$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **Each \$24,500.**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres about Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900!**
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! **SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.**
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! Off Ridge Dr. Will not last! **SORRY SOLD! \$50,000**

OXFORD - 4 SPICEBUSH LANE



ON DEPOSIT
One level living with added 35 x 18 finished walk-out lower level. Cathedral ceilings, skylight dining, hard-wood flooring and central air. Stainless appliances w/large double oven. Over-sized 30 x 14 deck. quiet cul-de-sac! **New Price \$314,900.**

SOUTHBRIDGE - 14 SERVANT WAY



SORRY, SOLD!
Young ranch with heated 2 car garage, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Efficient Propane heat, central air! Open floor plan! gas fireplace! Master Suite w/bathroom, Master California Closet! assisted sale **\$279,900.**

OXFORD - 115 CHARLTON ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!
Beautiful home set back off road providing privacy and oversized yard. Kitchen w/granite counters & abundance of cabinets. Cathedral ceilings kitchen, dining and living room. Open floor plan! large deck with large backyard through sliders in dining room. Hardwood floors! Tile baths. Master bedroom/master bath! Finished walkout lower level w/bat! 2 car garage. Extras: above ground pool **\$369,900.**

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY



SORRY, SOLD!
NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF Central Air! Kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms! Granite Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tank! Fully finished Lower Level w/Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, renovated to include Hydro Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres! **\$360,000.**

WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD



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WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVE



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WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180'+/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining, formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing Is Everything \$1,075,000.**

LAKE SHIRLEY - 647 RESERVOIR RD



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Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Colonial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/ shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House! assisted sale **\$1,040,000.**



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Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company
Bird cage planters add whimsy to outdoor or indoor décor while providing a unique place to display air plants, seasonal plants and more.

The popularity of gardening is at an all-time high and people are discovering its many benefits. Some want to grow safe and nutritious food, others are boosting the beauty of their landscape, and many are turning to gardening to relieve stress. With the holidays right around the corner, it's the perfect opportunity to support new and experienced gardeners with a thoughtful garden-related gift.

Help small space gardeners expand their growing space and reduce maintenance with self-watering elevated cedar planters. Elevated gardens add garden space to a balcony, deck or patio while raising the garden bed to a comfortable and easily accessible height. The self-watering system makes gardening easy with proper, less frequent watering to ensure success.

Do the same for indoor plant enthusiasts with stylish terrariums, plant stands, and lighting features. Terrariums are still popular, creating a decorative means for providing the moisture and humidity tropical plants need. Copper and



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

rot resistant mango wood terrariums (gardeners.com) add a new and decorative twist to this traditional growing system.

Plant stands allow your favorite indoor gardener to maximize any available space. Shelves filled with greenery help improve indoor air quality, reduce stress, and can elevate one's mood. New modern metal plant stand designs add a modern vibe to the indoor garden display.

When space is at a premium, give the gift of vertical gardening accessories. Birdcage planters provide a unique way to display tropical or seasonal flowers. Lower them to tabletop level to use as a centerpiece or decorative element in seasonal indoor displays.

Don't overlook the cooks in your life that may be intrigued by mov-

ing their garden indoors. Keep them stocked with fresh herbs and vegetables. Increase their growing space and needed light with a gift of energy efficient LED grow lights in an attractive stand like the Oslo customizable LED Grow Lights. For those with very limited space, consider an organic kitchen caddy planter kit. A windowsill or countertop herb garden is a great way for anyone to add garden-fresh flavor to winter meals.

Make gardening a fun and accessible experience with the help of a deep seat kneeler that when flipped over, converts. Or add storage and mobility with a Deluxe Tractor Scoot with Bucket Basket. The handle allows you to easily take your tools and garden scoot with you to every corner of your landscape.

And don't forget the stocking stuffers. Who doesn't need extra plant tags, ties and gloves? Consider replacing the stocking with a colorful Tubtrug. These flexible lightweight tubs are per-

fect for harvesting garden produce, collecting weeds or transporting anything from one space to another.

The gift of gardening provides lifelong benefits. Supporting family and friends with useful tools and equipment can increase their gardening enjoyment and success. And don't forget to add a few of your favorite garden related items to your gift list. You'll eliminate the stress and guesswork for the giver and you both will appreciate a gift that provides years of function, beauty and memories.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardeners Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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ON DEPOSIT

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47 Upland Ave - \$299,900

SCHOOLS

continued from page A1

letics and Covid-19 made this a very difficult decision,” the proposal’s statement of purpose states. “Limiting the number of students athletes and adult coaches on campus would lessen the undue risk for exposure and transmission of Covid-19.”

Committee member September Forbes noted that Gov Charles Baker recently reported that schools haven’t been major Covid transmitters and is advocating opening them.

In the Oct. 9 issue of The Atlantic, Emily

Oster writes, “Our data on almost 200,000 kids in 47 states from the last two weeks of September revealed an infection rate of 0.13 percent among students and 0.24 percent among staff. That’s about 1.3 infections over two weeks in a school of 1,000 kids, or 2.2 infections over two weeks in a group of 1,000 staff.” She goes on to add, “And although absence of evidence is not evidence of absence, I’ve read many stories about outbreaks at universities, and vanishingly few about outbreaks at the K–12 level.”

Locally, Superintendent Kristine Nash told the committee they’ve seen just two con-

firmed cases in the school community. But Coonan was the only vote against the proposal, citing the recently rising Covid rates and uncertainty.

The others supported it, largely on the grounds that, in David Cornaccioli’s words, “a lot of kids need that balance.” Forbes agreed, noting some kids come to school for sports and do the academics “because they have to.” Thios would also give them a chance to be involved despite being in full-remote classes.

Because of Covid, the district has seen a large spike in homeschooling – 42 kids versus 16 last year and 29 the year before,

District Registrar Nick Packard said. He noted, however, it would have been higher if the administration had not encouraged parents to wait while they planned for full-remote and hybrid schooling; that “definitely saved us from having much higher numbers,” he said.

The same issue has prompted more parents to hold their kids back from going to kindergarten, making him describe this year’s class as “dangerously small” at just 64 kids. They’d predicted 86 based on the town’s census totals with some inflation for later moves. Most of the difference will hit kindergarten (not

just go to first grade) next year, potentially making that class about 125 kids, Packard said.

Overall, though, “the numbers have just been falling in the school district,” Nash observed. “We’re just not anywhere near where we were 5-6 years ago.”

Data Packard provided shows Oxford’s enrollment has dropped by about 600 kids since fiscal 2010. This year, the total as of Oct 1 was 1409, and he projects 1391 next year and 1367 the year after that.

Those figures include a significant number who go to other public, charter and private schools. Schools that get at least

20 Oxfordians this year are: Bay Path (129), Abby Kelley Foster Charter (32), Dudley/Charlton (29), Marianapolis (26), and St Joseph’s High (25), with most of them leaving between eighth and ninth grade.

Nash noted the Oct 1 figures will be the basis for next year’s state Chapter 70 funding. Without “some kind of adjustment” that takes into account Covid-caused changes, she said she expects fiscal 2022’s budget to be “frightening.”

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

DMA

continued from page A1

nabis flowers, extraction and processing of oils and the production of edibles, vape cartridges and other processed goods that would be either sold in their retail space or sent out for distribution.

CLUB

continued from page A1

Executive Director Liz Hamilton. “Now serving as a learning hub, kids attend our program 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to access their remote classrooms in a safe and supportive environment. Breakfast and lunch are included. We made this switch so that we could help working parents, including teachers, have peace of mind and not worry about having to make a choice between quitting their jobs or leaving their kids home alone.”

Added Hamilton, “I am so proud and grateful for my team and the board of directors. Their commitment to our kids and community is really unparalleled.”

The team is also appreciative of the support received from local businesses, foundations, and individuals who have provided financial assistance during the last several months. Continued support will be needed in the months ahead to help local kids and families.

“We understand there is a strong possibility that we may be called to serve as a learning hub through the entire 20-21 school year, so the need for donations will continue to grow,” Hamilton said. “We want to keep our doors open; we believe we are one of the only agencies in the area with the capacity and know-how to serve our communities’ kids.”

To learn more about the organization and how it is helping area families, call 508-943-0037.

“What we really want to bring to this operation is best practice techniques in cultivation and in manufacturing,” Lahar added.

The company is investing \$35 million to \$40 million in the project and have made it clear they want to be good neighbors and employers in the community. They’ve also completed a traffic study, odor management study and other required and requested investments that will be presented o the town at a Planning Board meeting in mid-November.

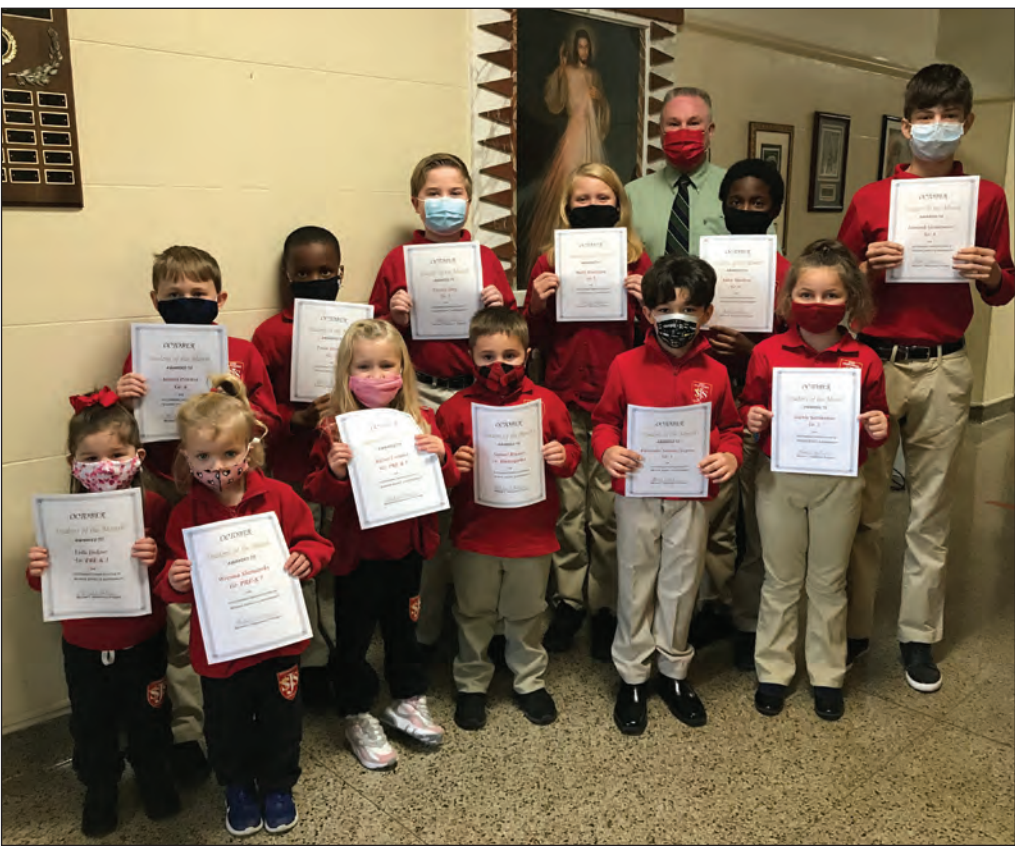
Rhett Jordan, CEO of DMA Holdings and founder of Native Roots, the largest cannabis company in Colorado, pre-

sented the floorplan for the mill which includes 20,000 square feet of manufacturing space, a retail dispensary and parking. The businesses are specifically designed to create separation between the retail space and the growing areas.

“You want to keep the product cultivation center as far away from where all the traffic is in general, not just from a security standpoint but also from an integrated pest management perspective. Our intent is to keep that cultivation as clean and as far away as possible from any the retail aspect of the business,” Jordan said. “The building itself is actually very suitable for what we do - We’re actually able to have employees

coming in from different areas and really control access and work flow through the building to make sure everyone is kind of in their designated areas.”

Jordan expressed the company’s intent to keep the business “classy” and the explore branding strategies that would help the company “stand out without standing out”. Once the building process begins it is expected to take 16 months for the doors to open with a phased approach starting with the retail store before cultivation commences. DMA Holdings is expected to present more details before the Planning Board on Nov. 18.



Courtesy

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as October Students of the Month: Pre-K 3-year-old – 2 Day Program: Wrenna Shemansky; Pre-K 3-year-old – 3 Day Program: Leila Doktor; Pre-K 4-year-old: Kelsey Cormier; Kindergarten: Samuel Brunnett; Grade 1: Elixander Salome-Negron; Grade 2: Sophia Surowaniec; Grade 3: Tosin Akindele; Grade 4: Antoni Powaza; Grade 5: Molly Hachigian; Grade 6: Aiden Muchiru; Grade 7: Treyton Dery; Grade 8: Dominik Gielarowiec. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!

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Dany Gordon is a Montclair State University Red Hawk!

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